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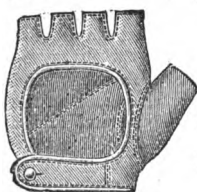
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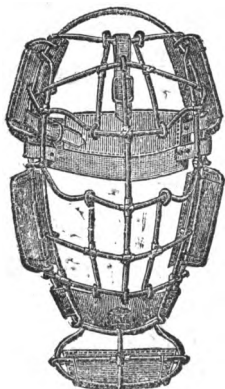


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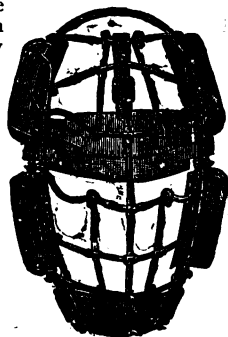


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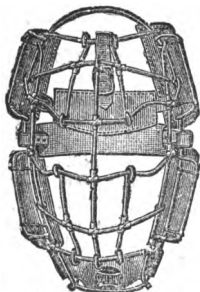


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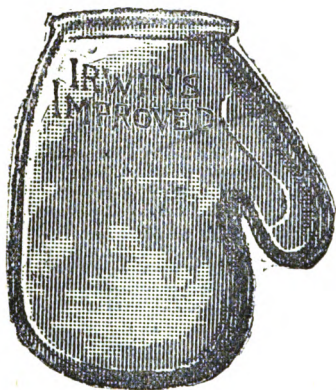
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MEMBERS OF THE  
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## PREFATORY NOTE.



THE following pages have been written in the hope that they may afford practical assistance to the large and rapidly increasing number of young men in this country who have manifested a desire to acquire a knowledge of baseball, and to learn to play the game. If, as is not improbable, I have failed to set out any essential matter with sufficient plainness and clearness, I shall be glad to give to any inquirer further explanation or fuller information respecting any detail of play.

N. C.

POSTFORD HOUSE,  
CHILWORTH,  
SURREY,

TO YOUNG MEN  
AT OXFORD  
1930

# CONTENTS.



CHAPTER	PAGE
I. THE HISTORY OF THE GAME ... ..	I
II. INTRODUCTION OF THE GAME INTO ENGLAND ...	12
III. THE GROUND AND IMPLEMENTS ... ..	22
IV. THE BATSMAN AND BASE-RUNNERS ... ..	30
V. "THREE MEN OUT, ALL OUT" ... ..	40
VI. FIELDING ... ..	43
VII. HINTS FOR LEARNING THE GAME ... ..	55
VIII. THE SCORING ... ..	60
IX. THE UMPIRE ... ..	74
X. TECHNICAL TERMS ... ..	79
XI. LAWS OF THE GAME IN BRIEF ... ..	82
APPENDIX—AUTHORIZED PLAYING RULES ...	87

## LIST OF ILLUSTRATIONS.

	PAGE
DIAGRAM OF A BASEBALL GROUND ... ..	24
GENERAL VIEW OF A GAME IN PROGRESS ... ..	27
THE BATSMAN IN THE BOX ... ..	31
A "STOLEN BASE" ... ..	33
SLIDING FOR A BASE ... ..	34
POSITION OF THE PITCHER ... ..	46
THE PITCHER AND CATCHER, BATSMAN, AND UMPIRE ...	45
LAST MOVEMENT IN PITCHING ... ..	47
DELIVERING THE BALL ... ..	48
THE CATCHER BEHIND THE BAT ... ..	49
FIRST BASEMAN CATCHING A HIGH-THROWN BALL ...	50
CATCHING A RUNNER OFF HIS BASE ... ..	51
PICKING UP A "GROUNDER" ... ..	52
CATCHING A FLY-BALL ... ..	53
MAKING A RUNNING CATCH ... ..	54
HOW TO HOLD THE BAT ... ..	59
GAME SIMPLY SCORED—PRESTON NORTH END <i>v.</i> ASTON VILLA	62
GAME SCORED IN DETAIL—PRESTON NORTH END <i>v.</i> ASTON VILLA ... ..	64

# BASEBALL.

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## CHAPTER I.

### THE HISTORY OF THE GAME.

BASEBALL, although the American national game, is not only of English origin, but is one of the most ancient of English sports. In a letter of the celebrated Mary Lepel, Lady Hervey, written in 1748, the family of Frederick, Prince of Wales, are described as "diverting themselves with baseball, a play all who are or have been schoolboys are well acquainted with." It is hardly likely that the modern game of baseball has anything in common with the sport thus referred to. The latter was probably what our grandfathers called "bases," and which, by an easy process of development, became rounders, a sport still indulged in by the youth of both sexes in the North and Midlands. The baseball of the last century was one of the numerous games of ball which, descended from the remotest antiquity, furnish a common origin to cricket and football, as well as to baseball. Of these cricket is perhaps the most scientific, but its claims in that respect find a jealous rival in baseball, which has now reached such a state of perfection, in both batting and fielding, as to leave but little apparent room for further development.

It has been urged against baseball that it is simply an improved form of rounders. It undoubtedly owes its origin to rounders,\* but it bears less resemblance to that game than modern cricket does to the ancient sport of the village-green, where an inverted milking stool and wooden balls were the rude implements of play. The modern game of baseball has been developed from its crude origin in rounders within the memory of those still able to play it. Prior to 1850 the boys and young men of the Eastern States in America played what was called "town ball." The implements used were a solid rubber or yarn ball and a round or flattened bat, the players exercising the widest latitude in their choice of implements. There were three or four bases marked out by flat stones partially inserted in the ground, and as many players on the respective sides as desired to engage in the sport. The player scored by making the circuit of the bases, and could be put out, as in rounders, by being caught or by being hit when off the bases with the ball thrown by an adversary. There were no rules of play except such as were agreed upon between the players at the commencement of the game, and these differed in almost every community.

Eventually as the sport spread, and attracted a large following, many of its conditions, and those chiefly in which it resembled rounders, were abolished. The number of players on each side was restricted to nine; the putting out

\* Mr. A. G. Spalding, who has devoted much time to an inquiry into the origin of baseball, inclines to the belief that it is descended from the old French game of *tcheque*, which is still played by French schoolboys. According to Mr. Spalding, *tcheque* was imported into America by the French Huguenots, who settled in the Dutch colony of New Amsterdam. It is certainly true that town-ball, the immediate forerunner of baseball, had its largest following in New York city, and that it had been played there for generations before the Dutch and French customs of New Amsterdam had become lost in the modernized New York.

of three men put out the whole side, and closed the innings; the number of innings was fixed at nine, although in case of rain or any other necessary interruption it was agreed that five innings should constitute a game; the batsman was permitted to run only after making a fair hit—that is, after having driven the ball within an angle of approximately ninety degrees in front of him; the barbarous and horse-play custom of “plugging” or hitting the runner with the ball was forbidden, and, instead, fielders were stationed on the bases to catch thrown balls to intercept the runner. The number of bases was fixed at four, including the home or batting base, and these were placed ninety feet distant from each other, and arranged at the corners of a square.

Thus moulded into practically its present form, baseball at once became exceedingly popular. It was found to be a hardy, vigorous game, which called into play the wits as well as the muscles. It could be begun and finished in a couple of hours, and thus afforded in summer evenings, and on holiday afternoons, the recreation and diversion required by young men engaged in work and business. The incident of the retiring of the side when three men had been put out equalized the batting and added a new zest to the fielding. No variation from rounders proved so successful as the introduction of this simple rule of “three men out, all out.” Instead of remaining in the field for an hour or more endeavouring to put out nine men, and barely succeeding, if aided by good fortune, in completing two innings, the fielders found that three men could be put out in a few minutes, and that in the nine innings which now constituted the game they might have half a dozen opportunities of batting, and were certain of no long and tiresome intervals in the field.



It was altogether a quick and lively sport, full of variety and exciting incidents. The clubs that were formed soon acquired considerable expertness, and the games exchanged between the representatives of rival communities attracted wide attention and evoked great enthusiasm. Several of the leading clubs were sent by their patrons on long tours over the country, and their performances were made the subject of popular demonstrations as they moved from city to city. The peculiar and amusing rivalry between the towns in the United States found a capital vent in baseball. The games were municipal battles, and the players, if victorious, were regarded as the heroes of the hour. The contests between Cincinnati and Chicago, particularly those in the latter city, were attended by almost the entire populace, while the thronged avenues which led to the ball grounds resembled for the occasion the approaches to the Derby.

The keen rivalry between the different clubs, enhanced by the jealousies between the cities, naturally led to the introduction of the professional element. To strengthen weak places in the nine, or to acquire an advantage over a strong competitor, the clubs scoured the country for players of especial expertness. These were at first covertly and indirectly, but afterwards openly, paid for their services. It was soon discovered that the best of amateurs were no longer a match for professionals whose whole time was given up to practice and training for the work required of them. The leading clubs were consequently made up entirely of paid players, money for whose salaries was obtained by the "gates," which were large and profitable. As far back as 1857, a National Association of Baseball Players was formed of clubs in New York, Brooklyn, and vicinity, but it was not until some years later that the first salaried baseball team was organized. This was formed

by the Cincinnati Cricket Club, and the players were known as the Cincinnati "Red Stockings," on account of the hose they wore with their flannel knickerbockers. Beginning in April, 1869, this club travelled throughout the United States, from Maine to California, and from Chicago to New Orleans, playing almost daily until June, 1870, without the loss of a single game.

In 1871 the clubs employing paid players had become so numerous, that the "National Association of Professional Baseball Players" was organized. Only teams composed of professionals were eligible to membership. A schedule of games was arranged, and an emblem of national championship was contested for. At first the games were largely attended, and evoked great enthusiasm; but unfortunately the discipline of the players was lax, insubordination was of constant occurrence, and under the influence of the gambling fraternity games were won and lost in such a manner as to suggest wholesale bribery and corruption, and in consequence all interest in them was lost. In 1876 the better class of clubs withdrew from the existing organization, and formed the "National League of Professional Baseball Clubs." Under the control of a firm executive, the old abuses were got rid of, dishonest players were expelled from the game, and a new order of professionals was induced to take their places.

This new League has become the central governing body of all ball-players, amateur as well as professional, in the United States and Canada. By its legislation it has prohibited, in fact as well as by law, the sale of intoxicants on the grounds where its games are played, and has put an end to betting, not only among the players, but among the spectators. While there are but eight clubs directly belonging to the League, it virtually controls

the affairs of a dozen affiliated professional associations embracing nearly a hundred clubs, and employing from twelve to fifteen hundred salaried players. At the same time it forms the rules for the amateur organizations. Its legislative body is composed of shrewd business men of well-known integrity and force of character, to whose credit it may be said that in all the keen strife for championship honours—the struggle for which has hardly less interest for the American people than a Presidential contest—not an intimation has been made for years of dishonest play or trickery.

This National League has clubs in Boston, New York, Brooklyn, Philadelphia, Pittsburgh, Cincinnati, Cleveland, and Chicago. Another organization, the American Association, has clubs located in Boston, Philadelphia, Baltimore, Washington, Louisville, Columbus, and St. Louis; while a third league, the Western Association, occupies the principal cities in the west and north-west. Each of these three organizations, under a National Agreement, appoints a representative officer to sit on a board of control, which exercises judicial and executive functions. All disputes as to the rights of the clubs and all grievances of players, members of any of the clubs, are heard by this board, and the decision of the latter is final and conclusive. It also makes all rules of play, appoints official umpires, and confirms schedules of fixtures. It further assumes control over territory, and prevents any league from taking in new clubs or locating clubs in towns or cities in which there is already a club a member of any of the organizations which are parties to the compact. As there are many hundreds of thousands of dollars invested in club grounds and franchises, this protection of vested interests is a matter of great consequence. A number of minor leagues in the United States and

Canada are affiliated with it for purposes of self-preservation, and to secure protection from the larger and wealthier bodies, which otherwise might invade their territory, and seize on the young and promising players they develop.

As the compact, or National Agreement, as it is called, provides that an infraction of its rules shall deprive the offender of all of its rights, and also of the privilege of exchanging games with its members, its power is absolute, for a club which could not interchange a game with any other club could not long exist. In a number of instances aggrieved players and clubs have appealed to the law courts, and have there obtained rights which the board of control of the National Agreement has denied them; but as the other clubs have refused to recognize the decisions of the law courts, the clubs appealing to the law have thus obtained only a barren victory, and the power of the National Agreement has remained supreme.

The contracts approved by the National Agreement, under which the players give their services to the clubs, are in law void from want of equity in two particulars: first, in that they provide, that while the player shall render service during the term covered by the contract, the club, on the other hand, may, on ten days' notice, dismiss the player; and, second, in that after the period of the contract the club shall have the right of reserving its players (to the number of eleven) for another season, thus forcing them to contract again with the club, or be debarred from playing altogether, as no other club can employ a reserved player without losing its rights under the agreement. Many attempts have been made to prepare contracts which, while preserving these features, shall still comply with the law, but thus far with questionable success. Hence the anomaly is presented of a powerful organization, controlling hundreds of

contracts, and making laws to govern thousands of players, which are, in fact, illegal, and therefore cannot be enforced in the civil courts. Its edicts are, nevertheless, scrupulously complied with, because both players and clubs recognize that unless an organization is free to let an indifferent player go when a chance occurs to secure a better, the games would lose interest; and that unless a club is permitted to reserve its popular players at the end of the season for a subsequent one, there would be no harmony in the ranks, and no opportunity for the development of team-work, which is the secret of successful play.

The objection in this country to baseball as played in America, on account of the prominence given to professionalism, would be greatly modified, if not altogether removed, if the facts were better known. Baseball is in many respects the most attractive to the spectator of all games of skill. The contests are sharp and quick, the points of play are numerous and diverting, the changes are constant, and the struggle, if the opposing forces are fairly well matched, is exciting from the start to the finish. The players are directly under the eye of the lookers-on, who from their seats may distinctly see every movement that is made, while the match rarely lasts more than an hour and a half. The spectators regard the whole performance as an exhibition, and demand that the performers be the very best that can be procured. The American baseball audience would as quickly resent the introduction of an amateur player into the game as the habitual play-goers of London would the putting of an amateur actor into the cast at a first-class theatre.

There has been no controversy over the question of professionalism in baseball in America for this reason, and also on account of the fact that the two classes of

players, amateurs and professionals, have for years been kept entirely distinct. No amateur club is permitted to play for the trophy for which the professionals contest. In fact, no amateur club, even if permitted, could go through the season with the professionals, as the National League clubs each play a hundred and forty matches for the championship, thus requiring a game on nearly every day of the week throughout the season, and thousand of miles of journeys. On the other hand, no professional club, even if its engagements admitted of it, would be permitted to take part in a series of games for an amateur trophy.

There is still another reason why professionalism is not distasteful to the American patrons of baseball, and this is on account of the character of the young men who enter its ranks, attracted thither by the high salaries freely given, and the fact that the employment does not necessarily imply loss of social position. The great body of baseball professionals in the United States is annually largely recruited from the upper schools and colleges, while scores of men enter upon the employment to procure means with which to continue professional studies or to enter business.\* The vigour with which those who are likely to yield to temptation are controlled, and the influx

\* When in the summer of 1890, the National Baseball League of Great Britain let it be known in the United States that it desired the services of six or eight young men to act as instructors of the game, there were nearly one thousand applications, although it was announced that, in addition to an allowance for travelling expenses from New York to London and return, those selected would receive not more than three or four guineas a week. Among the applicants were representatives of all the learned professions—divinity students, young doctors and embryo lawyers, and architects, engineers, and schoolmasters. Many offered their services gratuitously, stating that they considered the opportunity of visiting England, and the incidental advantages of travel and a few months' study abroad, ample compensation for their work for the League.

of the better class of young men, whose presence is in itself a restraint upon the others, have suppressed dissipation of all kinds from the clubs, whose teams now with hardly an exception are models of good behaviour.

The salaries received by these players is one of the most remarkable incidents in connection with the growth of the game in America. Mr. Henry Chadwick publishes a table in the Official League Book for 1890, from which it appears that sixteen players have received in salaries during the past nine years no less than \$354,100, or an average to each player of \$22,131. During the year 1889 these sixteen players were paid \$56,750, or more than £850 each for their six months' services. Several received £1000 a year, and, in addition, considerable sums by way of inducements to fix their names to contracts at these generous terms.

Under the law which rigidly governs the clubs employing professionals, "revolving," or the desertion by a player of his club and contracting with another, is impossible, as the penalties affect not only the player but the clubs. In order to secure the services of a player under contract, a club must treat with his employers, and purchase his release. To effect this, in two or three instances as high a price as £2000 has been paid, while payments of £200 to £500 are of common occurrence. It may be fairly inferred from this lavish use of money to secure proficient players, that the game of baseball admits of the use of such exceptional skill resulting from natural efficiency and great training, as to give it some right to be called a scientific game. If it was the "simple game of rounders," as has been so often objected by those who consider it unworthy a place among British sports, the Americans would hardly spend such large sums of money in the way of salaries for players of so childish a game.

Notwithstanding the growth of professionalism, baseball has become more and more the game of amateurs in the United States and Canada. In the former, it is played in summer to the exclusion of every other sport, and in the latter it is taking the place of lacrosse and cricket. The facility it affords for two or three hours' recreation of the most vigorous and diverse character, including the playing of a completed match, commends it to clerks and artisans, whose labours give them comparatively little leisure. While it ~~admits~~ of great skill, it may be thoroughly enjoyed and ~~satisfactorily played~~ by young lads and grown men who have no great proficiency in ~~athletics~~. The fielding is quite as attractive to the players as the batting, and ~~expertness~~ in it is a matter of great consideration. In nearly every open space and in the side streets in the cities of America one may see factory hands and warehouse clerks employing the noon hour in "passing the ball," that is, practising throwing and catching. And when repairing to the recreation fields the devotees of baseball find great pleasure in having one of their number bat the ball, that the others may catch it. This exercise naturally promotes proficiency in fielding, and is the secret of the many brilliant stops of hot ground balls, and the running catches of long fly balls, with which the game, when well played, abounds.

Some idea of the hold the game has on the American people may be gathered from the fact that during the playing season every league game is reported, innings by innings, by special telegraph wires and news agencies. These reports are displayed on the bulletin-boards of newspaper offices, in hotel corridors, saloons, and clubs. An enterprising New York newspaper hit upon a novel device for catering to the great desire for information of the progress of the games in which the New York club was engaged. A



board, ten feet square, was erected on the outside of the building, between the windows on the first floor. This was marked off to represent the diagram of a ball-field. Movable discs bearing numbers corresponding to those of the players of the two sides were arranged in the various positions on the field, those of the batsmen being inserted, as the men went to bat, at the home plate. On a balcony or platform in front of this board were a telegraph operator, with a telegraph instrument, and a scorer. As the instrument ticked out each move on the field a thousand miles away, the scorer moved his discs to interpret the play to the throngs in the street below. The latter shouted or groaned in response as a favourite player made a run, or a "put out" was scored against him. In other cities halls were hired to show the play on similar diagrams, and a considerable admission fee was charged to witness it.

## CHAPTER II.

### INTRODUCTION OF THE GAME INTO ENGLAND.

BASEBALL was first seen in England in 1874, when the Boston team and the Athletics of Philadelphia, the former for that season the champions of America, toured through the provinces, and played a series of exhibition games in London. Although fairly good audiences witnessed a majority of the games, but little interest was evinced in the sport, or in the presence of the visiting Americans. In nearly every instance the latter appeared also in a cricket match with an eleven at each place they visited. In these cricket matches the Americans played eighteen against eleven of their opponents, and were, with these odds, uniformly

victorious. The game of baseball was not understood, and in the short hour or two devoted to the exhibition matches but little idea of it could be acquired by the bewildered spectators. In this respect those who were desirous of promoting its introduction into this country were at a very great disadvantage. When lacrosse was first played the spectators could readily comprehend, from their knowledge of football, polo, and hockey, what the players were trying to accomplish, and were therefore able to appreciate the skill required in running and throwing the ball as the combatants endeavoured to get it through their opponents' goal. But in baseball there was no likeness to any other game of ball. There were no stumps to defend as in cricket, and there were no goals; and while there were bases, as in rounders, there was an apparent confusion in the restriction upon the direction a batted ball might take, in the variety of ways a player might be put out, and in the quick changes of the sides that made it impossible for even a rounders player to follow the game. Thus the efforts of the Boston and Philadelphia players to introduce baseball in England resulted in a complete failure.

Nothing further was heard or seen of the game for fifteen years following. Then in 1889 Mr. A. G. Spalding, of Chicago, who, at the close of the baseball season of 1888 in America, had taken the Chicago club and a picked team selected from all America to the Australasian colonies to give exhibition matches during the winter, determined to return to America by way of England, and thus complete his tour around the world. The notoriety acquired by the extensive journey—undoubtedly the longest ever undertaken by so large a body of athletes—and the Yankee audacity exhibited in playing matches of the American national game not only in the Sandwich Islands and the cities of New Zealand

and Australia, but under the shadow of the Pyramids, in the Roman Colosseum, and on the Champ de Mars, attracted unusual attention in England to the coming of the Americans, who reached here in March, 1889, and secured for them large audiences both in London and throughout the provinces.

Although the leading daily and illustrated newspapers contained lengthy descriptions of the game, it was still apparently as much of a mystery as ever to the spectators. The weather was also exceedingly unpropitious, most of the games being played in fog, rain, and snow, and on grounds which were wet and slippery. As baseball is essentially a summer game, and requires as dry and quick a turf as cricket, the players were not able to do themselves justice; while the spectators, wearied by what were to them meaningless antics, left the wet and cheerless fields with anything but pleasant impressions of baseball.

The first match in London between Chicago and All America was played at the Oval, and attracted from seven to eight thousand spectators. The atmosphere was saturated with moisture, and the fine turf upon which the diagram was laid out was soft and sodden. A fog veiled the outfield, and when a ball was batted in that direction it was immediately lost to sight. Whether the fielder made a catch or not was a matter of conjecture to the on-lookers, who saw nothing beyond the shadowy form of an athlete flying about in the gloom. The base-runners slipped about in the mud, and returned to the players' bench covered from head to foot with samples of the soil they had gathered in their round of the bases. Those who understood the game could find but little enjoyment in it, and it was hardly to be expected that those who were unfamiliar with it could view it with pleasure.

The Prince of Wales kindly lent his presence to encourage the promoters of the sport, and remained throughout the contest, taking an apparent interest in every movement of the players. Upon being requested by a newspaper reporter to give his impressions of the game, he asked for the reporter's notebook, and in it wrote the following note, which duly appeared the next morning in the account of the match :—

*The Prince of Wales  
has witnessed the  
game of Base Ball  
with great interest  
& though he considers  
it an excellent game  
he considers Cricket  
as superior*

Another cause of disappointment of the spectators was pointed out by the Duke of Beaufort, who manifested a great interest in the sport. The pitchers on the respective sides were on their mettle, and, being unusually expert, succeeded in delivering the ball to the batsmen so artfully as to constantly deceive them, and thus forced them either to "strike out" or to feebly hit the ball into the in-field, whence they were easily thrown out at first base. In commenting on this to the writer, the Duke of Beaufort wrote as follows :—

"Of course, the jealousy between All America and Chicago, while it kept all the players up to the mark and made them do their best to prevent their opponents from scoring, made the game dull to on-lookers, who did not understand it. If they could have played a few games not to be counted in their wins and losses against each other, in which the pitchers would give easy balls and enable the hitters really to make fine hits and give a chance to the field to make the splendid catches they are able to make, the game would have taken the fancy of the British public much more, as it would have thoroughly astonished them."

It is unfortunate that this suggestion could not have been carried out. But from the time the Chicago and All America teams left Chicago on their tour around the world a record of the games and of the performances of each player was carefully kept. It became a matter of the greatest rivalry as to which team should score the most victories, and which pitcher should be credited with putting out the most batsmen. While this resulted in the sharpest kind of play, it was not the character of play best suited to commend the game to unskilled spectators.

Had the efforts to introduce baseball in England rested with the exhibitions of the All America and Chicago teams, the whole venture would have been as barren of results as the previous visit of the Boston and Athletic Clubs in 1874. Fortunately, however, a number of young college men from the leading universities of America, enthusiasts in baseball, decided to follow up the visit of the professional players, and to spend their midsummer holidays of 1889 in England, to teach the game wherever opportunity offered. They played a number of games at Richmond and on the Essex County grounds, and afterwards spent a fortnight or more in Birmingham. By making up their

sides, or nines, from bystanders who were willing to join them, they succeeded in bringing a number of Englishmen into the game, and thus secured for it a foothold. As a result of their efforts several gentlemen prominently identified with outdoor sports, chiefly with football, formed themselves, in October of 1889, into a council of the "National Baseball League of Great Britain." The "League" consisted of no clubs, and the council was not in any sense a representative of baseball playing organizations.

It was considered, however, that there was abundant room for the sport in this country, and that in no other way could it be introduced. This view of the matter had confirmation in the fact that during the ensuing winter the League received a large number of inquiries from secretaries of athletic organizations, principally football, hockey, and harriers clubs, whose members expressed a desire to continue in baseball during the summer their winter's exercise. In the spring of 1890 the League, in order to give a further practical illustration of baseball, and a continuous series of demonstrations of the manner in which it is played, encouraged the importation from America of a corps of instructors. Through the efforts of these men professional teams, made up principally of football "pros," were located on the grounds of the Preston North Enders, the Aston Villas at Birmingham, the County Cricket Club at Stoke, and of Mr. Ley's football club at Derby. Although put to practice only after the football season had ended, the players soon acquired a gratifying proficiency in the game. The matches, which were played under discouraging circumstances, the weather being unpropitious, and the grounds ill-adapted for the game, nevertheless attracted a constantly increasing number of spectators, who appeared to thoroughly enjoy the

sport. In Preston particularly the fine performance of the Preston North Enders elicited genuine enthusiasm, and evoked demonstrations of excited partisanship as the struggle for the trophy of championship approached the end. The Aston Villa team were the victors; but it is probable that if the season had lasted a fortnight longer, the Preston North Enders, who closely pressed them, would have proved the winners.

In the mean time the interest of the amateurs in baseball was constantly increasing, and at a meeting in July more than thirty clubs were represented by delegates or proxies. At this meeting a new organization was formed, under the name of "The Baseball Association of Great Britain and Ireland," of which the Rev. W. Marshall, well known in connection with the Yorkshire Rugby Union, and in amateur athletics generally, was made president. A council was elected to represent various districts in England, Scotland, and Ireland, and a committee appointed to prepare a scheme for a contest by amateurs for a championship cup. Unfortunately, it was found impossible to publish this scheme until so late in the season, that but three clubs entered for the trophy. This was won in the finals by the Preston club securing two out of three games from the Birmingham Amateurs, the first baseball club organized in Great Britain. The cup which is the emblem of the amateur championship of England is the gift of Mr. A. G. Spalding, of Chicago, who has taken a warm interest in the introduction of baseball into this country. Mr. Spalding has further offered a cup for competition to the amateurs of the North-east of England, and another to those of Scotland. These cups will first be played for during the summer of 1891.

The question is frequently asked, "Will baseball 'take' in this country?" Judging by the tone of the press and

the expressions of many who are prominent in outdoor sports in England, the answer might perhaps be made in the negative. The result of one season's work, however, shows that the game has already "taken." Measured by the interest awakened by football, in the first decade of the history of either the Rugby or the Association game, the success of baseball within a twelvemonth from its first introduction is most extraordinary. Those who can see no future for the new game, and who are opposing its growth, mainly rest their objections to it upon the grounds that it is a novelty; that it is an American importation; that it is without sufficient merit; and that, if it spreads, it will prove a hostile rival to cricket. That it is new and American can hardly be seriously urged against it in this age. It certainly has merit, or the Americans, who so closely resemble us in their sport-loving characteristics, would not annually spend nearly a million of dollars to support the numerous professional and amateur organizations of the United States, or show the enthusiasm over it which they so wildly manifest. Nor, if it was without merit, is it likely that it would have taken the hold it has not only in the United States, but in Canada, Cuba, Mexico, and the Sandwich Islands.

Against the same prejudice it has encountered here it is rapidly gaining ground in Japan, in Australia, and in New Zealand; and during the past summer spread to Italy and Austria. So far from lacking merit, on the contrary, it possesses it in a degree unknown to almost any other sport. It requires nerve, pluck, daring, control of temper, ready wit, supple muscles, unity in team work, subordination to authority, and ability not only to bat well, but to field expertly, and to run the bases fleetly and with judgment. There is not a dull moment in the game, and hardly any



instant when the ball is not in play. There is no tedious wait after a batsman has been caught, as by the same play that despatched him one and even two players may be put out. The players on this account are obliged to be always alert, and the interest of the lookers-on never flags.

In an interesting letter on baseball published by Mr. Erastus Wiman, one of the best known public men of Canada, the merits of baseball are thus tersely summed up—“As the descendant of an Englishman, of course I love the game of cricket. Who shall tell of the health of mind and body of which that manly game has been the source? Who shall estimate the happiness that has pervaded a thousand level ovals on ten thousand summer afternoons in dear old England, and in all the noble sisterhood of colonies and dependencies, that has enabled British cricketers to clasp hands around the world? As a Canadian, I love the brilliant game of lacrosse, in which grace, agility, and discipline combine to excite an interest unequalled in any other contest. But close observation convinces me that neither cricket nor lacrosse is as well calculated to hold the masses of men as baseball; while, at the same time, it is within the reach of greater perfection by a greater number of players at a less expenditure of time than any other game. Baseball combines all the merits of an exact science, all the glorious uncertainties of good and ill-luck, and all the intensity of interest that it is possible to crowd into a period that it is proper to spare for such a pursuit. There are more supreme moments in an hour and forty minutes of a well-played game of baseball than in any other contest of equal duration.”

The objection that there is no room for baseball in England, and that whatever following it may acquire will be that much loss to cricket, is hardly borne out by facts.

Those who have thus far taken up baseball are athletes who rarely play cricket. It must be recognized that cricket is not universally played by the youth of England and Scotland. In the North and Midlands, particularly, there are thousands of young men who devote themselves in winter to football, hockey, lacrosse, and harrier runs, who in summer are without recreative employment. It is remarkable that in the short days of an especially wet and disagreeable winter climate four or five outdoor sports have so numerous and enthusiastic a following, while in the long inviting days of summer there is in England hardly more than one poorly supported game. It is undoubtedly true that more spectators assemble in a fortnight, no matter how wet and cheerless the weather, to witness the football encounters in Lancashire, than are brought together during the entire summer by all the cricket matches in England. It is doubtful if one out of ten of those who in the North play or applaud football in winter, take the slightest interest in cricket.

It is lamentable that this should be the case; but the fact being recognized, an admission must follow that cricket does not so completely occupy the time and attention of the people as to leave no room for another and kindred sport. There is nothing in the game of baseball which can in any way make it an active rival to the old English game, which has obtained such a hold on the sentiment and affections of the people of England. On the contrary, the practice of baseball by a cricketer would at least result in an improvement in his fielding, both in catching and throwing the ball. Cricket will for all time to come be the great English game, but unfortunately there are tens of thousands of young men who have neither the time nor the means to play it under

such conditions as are necessary to reveal its greatest attractions. They have, however, abundant opportunity for a sport of which they can play a complete game in a summer evening, and in which they will find all the healthful recreation and interest of cricket. The mere fact that numerous athletic organizations—not one of whose members has ever seen the game—are endeavouring to acquire a knowledge of it from books of instruction, is sufficient proof that there is room for still another summer sport in England, and that one is demanded.

### CHAPTER III.

#### THE GROUND AND IMPLEMENTS.

THE theory of the game is very simple. The contesting sides consist of nine men each, and each side endeavours to have the greatest number of its men make the circuit of the bases in a given number of innings. When the fielding side has taken up its position in the field, the first batsman of the opposing team goes to bat, and having made a hit, runs, if he can, around the bases, thus scoring a run. The next batsman follows him, and attempts to do likewise, and so on, player after player of the side going to bat until three men have been put out by the efforts of the opposing fielders, when the innings is closed. The players who were in the field then come in and bat till three of their men have been put out, when their innings is closed. Thus the two sides alternate between the bat and the field till each has had nine innings. This is, in brief, all there is to the game, but the conditions under which it is played afford a great number of stirring and constantly varying incidents. There

is a prescribed form for the ground on which the game must be played ; the implements used are regulated by the laws of the game ; and there are certain rules with which the players must comply, in order to make the circuit of the bases, and in preventing their opponents from doing likewise. These rules may seem unduly numerous and intricate, but those which it is necessary to keep in mind are really few in number, and readily comprehended.

### THE GROUND.

Any fairly level piece of ground of the general size and condition of a football field is adapted for the game. It need not be of turf, and no carefully prepared pitch is necessary as in cricket, for the ball does not touch the ground before reaching the batsman. A hard earth space, either bare or cinder-covered, may be used, if dry ; although for playing matches between clubs which have acquired some degree of skill the condition of the ground should receive careful attention. For this purpose the field of play should be not less than 175 yards in length, and 125 yards in breadth, and it should be turfed throughout, except the paths between the bases and the path from the pitcher's position to that occupied by the catcher. These should be of hard earth, topped for an inch or two with sand, well rolled down. The field must be laid out according to the diagram on page 24. This shows a large diamond-shaped plat, the sides of which are thirty yards long. At the corners are four "bases." The one nearest the spectator is called the "home plate," or "home base," and at this point the batsman stands. It is indicated by a white rubber plate, twelve inches square. It is made of rubber, instead of iron or stone as formerly,

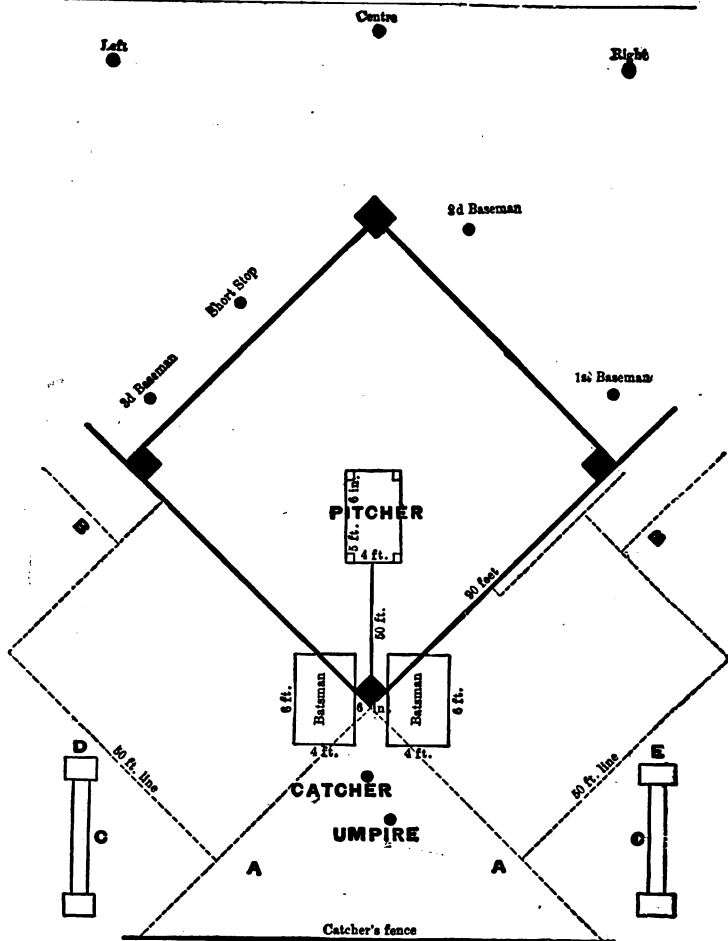


DIAGRAM OF A BASEBALL GROUND.

A, A, Ground reserved for umpire, batsman, and catcher ; B, B, ground reserved for captain and assistant ; C, C, players' bench ; D, visiting players' bat rack ; E, home players' bat rack.

to avoid accidents in slipping, and must be whitened in order that it may be distinctly seen by the pitcher and umpire. At the other corners of "the diamond" are bases, fifteen inches square and four inches thick. They are bags, or hassocks, made of canvas, and stuffed with some soft material. These bases are kept secure in their places by being strapped to a post let into the ground, and not protruding above its surface, or by an iron spike. The first to the right of the batsman is called the "first base;" the second, "second base;" and the third, "third base;" and the circuit of the bases, which the player must make to secure a run, must be made in the order named.

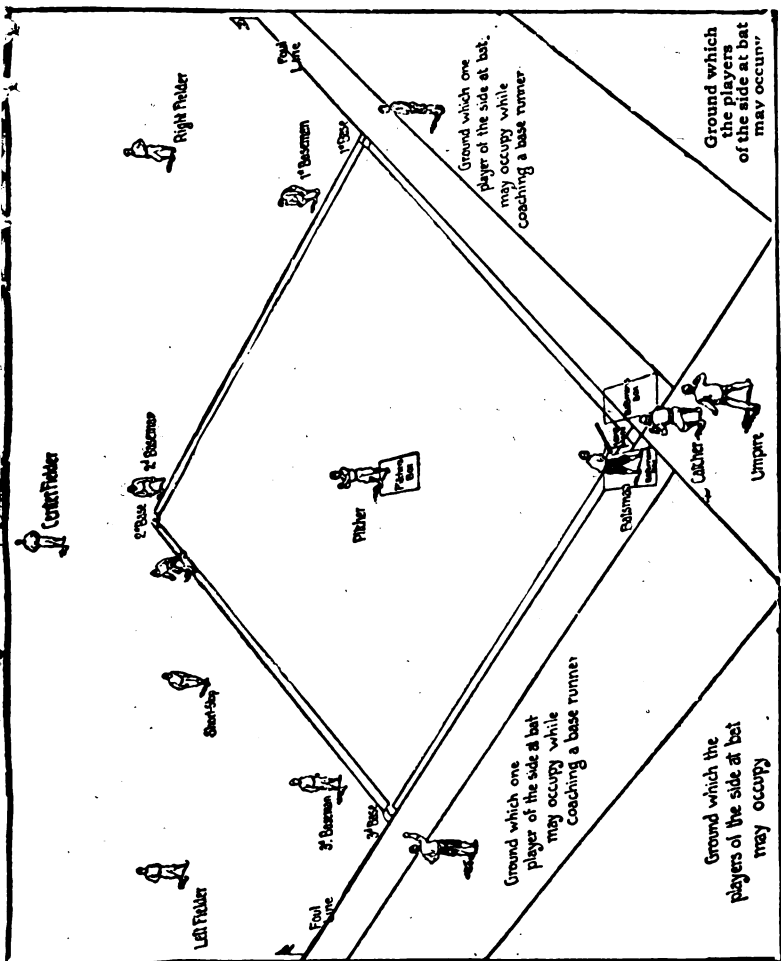
A line is drawn extending from the home plate through first base to the extremity of the field, and another from the home plate through the third base; also to the extremity of the field. These are the "foul" lines, and they must be distinctly marked with chalk or other suitable material (for which a lawn tennis marker may be used), so as to be plainly seen by the umpire. At their extremities in the field there are usually small flags, on standards five or six feet high, called "foul flags," the object of which is to assist the umpire in judging of the position in which the ball falls, for if it takes the ground within these lines it is a "fair" hit, and the batsman must at once start to make the circuit of the bases; while if it falls without the enclosure made by these lines it is a "foul" hit, and the batsman can take no advantage of the hit. So, too, if there should be any runners on the bases they cannot run on such a ball, but must remain at the base they occupied before the hit was made until the ball has been returned to the pitcher, and held by him while standing in his proper position. Parallel to these foul lines others are drawn, to keep the players of the side at bat off the field. These are called "coaching"

lines, and none may enter them except two of the side at bat, who are stationed there by their captain, to coach the base-runners.

For the ordinary purposes of play and in practice, it is not necessary that the ground should be as carefully marked out as here indicated. It will suffice if the ordinary lines between the bases, the foul lines, and those which enclose the pitcher's box are plainly marked. Nor are the usual bases absolutely necessary. Anything which will indicate the position of the bases—a stone let in the ground, or even a chalked space—will be sufficient. It will be found, however, that even in practice bases are not only more convenient, but their use will avoid many a stumble or severer accident.

#### THE POSITIONS OF PLAYERS.

There are nine men on each side. The choice of innings rests with the captain of the side upon whose ground the match is played. In a friendly game between members of a club on its own ground the captains of the sides decide the choice of innings by lot. The winner of the toss may send his men to bat or place them in the field as he desires. If he elects to take the field, he stations his men as follows (see illustration on opposite page):—One, called the "catcher," goes behind the home plate; the "pitcher" takes his place in the "pitcher's box;" three men guard the first, second, and third bases respectively; and a "short-stop" is placed nearly midway between second and third bases, and back of the path running between them. These six players constitute the "in-field." The remaining three players, known as the "right fielder," "centre fielder," and "left fielder," are the "out-fielders," and are stationed out in the field, back of first, second, and third bases, respec-



GENERAL VIEW OF A GAME IN PROGRESS.



tively. The pitcher must, while delivering the ball, stand in a parallelogram, five and a half feet long, and four feet wide, which is distant fifty feet from the home plate. The captain of the side at the bat may arrange the batting order of his men as he pleases, but when once arranged and given to the scorer or captain of the opposing side, he must follow that order throughout the game.

### IMPLEMENTS OF THE GAME.

In addition to the bases already spoken of, there are no other materials necessary for the game except the bat and ball. The bat must be made wholly of wood, except that the handle may be wound with twine. It must be round, although a portion of the surface may be flat on one side; it must not exceed two and a half inches in diameter at the thickest part; and it must not exceed forty-two inches in length. The ball must not weigh less than five and a quarter ounces, and measure not less than nine, or more than nine and a quarter inches in circumference. It will thus be seen that the ball is a quarter of an ounce lighter, and a trifle smaller than a cricket-ball, but it is much more elastic. It has an ounce of solid indiarubber at the centre, and around this is tightly wound elastic woollen yarn. It is covered with horse hide.

It may be said in this connection that several of the players are permitted, and in games where the highest skill is employed are encouraged, to use certain paraphernalia in the way of gloves, masks, and body protectors to shield them from injury. The pace of the pitcher is only limited by his strength, and a catcher standing twenty yards from him would be unable to receive the ball without some protection to his hands. For this purpose

a fingerless glove, the palm of which is thickly padded, is used for the right hand. This enables the catcher to get his fingers over the ball, and securely grasp it to throw it. His left hand is enveloped either in a huge buckskin glove with leather finger-tips, or an awkward-looking mitten, the padding of which reaches a thickness of two inches. With this great pillow he arrests the ball, while with the other less encumbered hand he securely holds it.

A few years ago catchers were severely hurt by "foul tips," the ball glancing off the bat and hitting them in the face and head. At first a piece of rubber, similar to an ink-eraser, was sometimes held between the teeth to lessen the shock, but finally a mask, like that used by fencers, was introduced; and although the catchers objected to the laughter occasioned when they put their head in the wire cage, they have now come to regard it as a necessary adjunct to their position. Not less useful is the body-protector, a great shield of inflated, cloth-covered indiarubber, which hangs from the catcher's neck and fastens about his waist like an awkwardly fitting Falstaffian apron. Thus equipped the catcher is not a thing of beauty, but his position is not an easy one, and even with these safeguards few good ball players would care to stand close up behind the bat and face the hot shot poured into them by the human mitrailleuse who occupies the pitcher's box. However, in amateur games, such pitchers do not appear, and the catcher will have but little difficulty in taking his part in the play without any of the accessories mentioned, save, perhaps, the gloves.

## CHAPTER IV.

## THE BATSMAN AND BASE-RUNNERS.

UPON game being called the man first on the batting list must take his position at the bat. This he does by standing within a parallelogram, four feet wide by six feet long, with its nearest line six inches distant from the home plate. There are two of these batsmen's boxes—one on the left of the plate for right-handed men, and the other to the right of the plate for those who bat left-handed. The object of these "boxes" is to keep the batsman within decent limits, and prevent him taking any advantage of his position. Should he hit the ball while standing without these lines he is "out."

## THE BATSMAN,

having ~~taken~~ his position, awaits the ball from the pitcher. If the ball sent by the latter be a "good" ball—that is, a ball which passes over the home plate at a height not lower than the batsman's knees or above his shoulder—the batsman must strike at it. Should he refuse, he suffers the same penalty as if he had attempted to hit it and failed to do so—that is, a "strike" is called on him; and if three "strikes" are called he is out, provided the ball upon which the last or third strike was called is caught by the catcher. Should the catcher fail to catch the ball the batsman has a chance for his life, and must run for first base. The batsman may strike at any kind of a ball he pleases, good or bad, but a "strike" must be called if he fails to hit the ball. The rule requiring the batsman to strike at every good ball is a wise one, otherwise he might indefi-

nately prolong the game through caprice in selecting a ball to strike at, or he might refuse to strike till he had fatigued and utterly worn out the pitcher, and thus weakened his force. On the other hand, the pitcher is bound to deliver a ball which is "good" according to the definition above given—that is, it must pass over the home plate not lower than the batsman's knee or higher than his shoulder. Every ball he delivers wide of this limited area must be "called" by the umpire, and when four such balls have been called the batsman is entitled to go to first base, and must at once proceed thither.



THE BATSMAN IN THE BOX.

If the batsman succeeds in hitting the ball, and it falls on ground outside the foul lines, the umpire must call "foul ball." A ball so hit counts for nothing, unless, before it reaches the ground, it is caught, in which case the player is out. If, however, the batsman succeeds in driving the ball into the "fair" territory—that is, the space before him bounded to the right and left by the foul lines—he must drop his bat and run at once for first base. If the ball is caught before it touches the ground he is out; or if he is touched with the ball in the hand of a fielder before he reaches first base; or if the ball is securely held by a fielder while touching first base with any part of his person, before he (the batsman) arrives there, he is "out."

The batsman may possibly hit the ball such a drive that it goes to the limits of the field, and cannot be fielded back in time to put him out before he has made the circuit of the bases. Such a hit is called a "home run." A hit which enables the batsman to reach the third base is known as a "three-base hit," likewise one by which he gets to second base is called a "two-base hit"—or, in the technical language of the game, these are "three baggers" and "two baggers" respectively. These long hits do not count in the score any more than the "single" which enables the batsman to get only to first base, except in so far as they assist him further round toward home. A record of them is kept, however, and they are set out in the summary of the game. Let us suppose, however, that his hit has enabled him to reach the first base only. He then begins the attempt to get home, and is

#### A BASE-RUNNER,

the next player on his side succeeding him at the bat. In his attempt to make the circuit of the bases, and thus tally a run for his side, the base-runner should not wait for the batsman who has succeeded him to make such a hit as will enable him to get "home" or reach the next base, but should take advantage of every opportunity to "steal" from base to base. There is no department of the game so full of life and excitement to the player, or of intense interest and amusement to the partisan spectators, as that of base-running.

A skilful base-runner is often the low comedian as well as the hero of the game, and his antics in trying to deceive the fielders and steal a base excite great amusement among the thousands of spectators that throng the ball grounds in



A "STOLEN BASE."

America. The captain or other coacher, the moment a batsman has reached first base, takes up his position in the coachers' lines near that base, while an assistant is stationed in the lines near third base. These men watch keenly every motion of the pitcher and catcher, or any other fielder having the ball, and shout out their instructions accordingly to the runner. "Now, Jack, take plenty of ground! Don't be afraid! He can't catch you! Wait till he pitches the next ball. Now you're off! No! no! Whoa! Come back! Now go! Slide! slide! There, that's a beauty!" as the runner is seen to emerge from a cloud of dust, and wildly clutch the second base. He has obeyed his captain's com-



SLIDING FOR A BASE.

mands, and in order to evade the touch of the ball in the hands of the second baseman has slid on his breast ten to fifteen feet, and in this position has just reached the coveted bag with the tips of his fingers. A roar of laughter and burst of applause greet him, as, seeing a new opportunity, he is up and off again for third, probably to repeat the experiment at that base. With two men out and a poor batsman at the bat, the expert base-runner has full scope to show his talents. He knows the game may be lost unless he takes the most desperate chances. He is, therefore, constantly on the move, making feints of getting off, in order to induce the pitcher or catcher to throw the ball, and yet

remaining near enough to his base to spring back to it before the ball can be got there. Should the pitcher make a wild throw, or the baseman in his nervousness let the ball get away from him, the base-runner at once seizes the opportunity and dashes homeward.

#### RESTRICTIONS ON BASE-RUNNING.

As far as the rules of the game are concerned, the base-runner may run from base to base in the direction of the home plate when he likes, with two exceptions. First, he may not run on a foul hit, but must, although he may have "got away" from his base before the hit was made, return to the base, and touch it after the umpire has called "foul ball," and must remain at his base until the pitcher has got possession of the ball and taken up his position in the "box." The reason of this exception is at once apparent. If a base-runner were permitted to run on a foul hit, a batsman would direct his skill and energies to the batting of foul balls, out of reach of the fielders, for the sole purpose of bringing home the base-runners. Second, the base-runner may not run on a hit which has been caught "on the fly" until after the ball has been momentarily held by the player catching it.

This restriction, which of all the rules of the game seems the most difficult both of comprehension and practice in this country and to beginners, is necessary in order to prevent a base-runner taking advantage of a hit which in effect is not a hit. If A and B were batting in cricket, and A should make a hit that seemed good for four, and should proceed to "run it out," he would not be entitled to a single run if the ball were caught, no matter how many times he had made the journey between the wickets. In the same way the batsman in baseball secures nothing



by making a long hit which is caught, and therefore the base-runner should not be permitted to take advantage of it. But there is one marked difference between cricket and baseball, which must be understood before one can comprehend the meaning of the expression "momentarily held" by the player catching it. In cricket, when a batsman has been caught play is suspended, and the ball is practically a dead ball until another batsman takes his place at the wickets. In baseball, if there are runners on the bases, the putting out of the batsman or of one of the base-runners does not interrupt the game. The ball is always in play, until the third man has been put out and the innings closed. Therefore, if the batsman makes a long hit to the outfield, and the ball is caught, the base-runner is compelled to wait at his base only until the player catching it has "momentarily" held it (as a proof that he has made the catch), and then the base-runner may resume his running, and attempt to steal the next base. Should he have started from the base he must return to it, and touch it after the ball is caught before he can attempt the following base.

With these two exceptions, then, there is nothing to prevent a base-runner the moment he has reached first base from continuing on around the bases, except the watchfulness and good play of the fielders. The runner will find that it will require great alertness, good judgment, speedy sprinting, and pluck and daring to "steal a base." The distance from base to base is thirty yards, and however fast he may run he will find, if the throwing and catching of the fielders is fairly good, that the odds are that when he reaches the next base the ball will have reached there before him, and the baseman will be standing ready to touch him with it. He must, therefore, look out for an exceptional chance to make the steal.

## GETTING A GOOD TAKE-OFF.

The pitcher in delivering the ball to the batsman must face the latter. His back is therefore turned to the base-runner, and the latter has accordingly an advantage, and will use it in taking as much ground as possible, and the moment the ball leaves the pitcher's hand make a dash for the coveted base. If the catcher is playing up close behind the bat, and is a good thrower, he will receive the ball and throw it quickly to the base toward which the base-runner is running to intercept him. A good catcher, assisted by a good baseman, will put the runner out almost to a certainty by this play. But if the throw is inaccurate, or the baseman fails to hold the ball, the runner will make his base. He should be prepared to take advantage of every error of his opponents, and if the throw is "wild," or the baseman unable to hold the ball, it may roll into the field, and the base-runner will thus have an opportunity to make for the next base, and possibly reach the home plate. A daring base-runner, taking these chances, will often demoralize the fielders, as after a thrown ball has been dropped it is no easy task to recover it and throw it accurately to the next baseman. Thus, when there are two base-runners an attempt to put out one, who has tempted the fielders into throwing the ball, will frequently result in both scoring.

There may be three base-runners on the bases at one time, under the following circumstances. Suppose the nine players of the side at bat be represented by the first nine letters of the alphabet. A, the first batsman, hits the ball and reaches first base. B, who succeeds him, does the same; A in the mean time having reached second base. C then goes to bat, and by a hit enables A to reach third base, and B

second base, while he himself reaches first base. There are thus three men on bases, and the situation is a most interesting and at the same time critical one. Unless D is a good batsman, there is a likelihood not only of his being put out himself, but of one or more of the base-runners being put out also.

#### RUNNERS FORCED TO RUN.

As two men cannot at one time occupy the same base, all the basemen are forced to run, provided D does not "strike out" or is not caught on a fly, for D must upon hitting the ball run for first base, which must be vacated by C to make room for him. As the second base is occupied by B, and the third by A, C will thus be caught in a trap, unless A and B both move on. Should D be so fortunate as to make a good hit the difficulty would be solved for A, and probably B, would reach home, leaving the coast clear for C and D as well. Suppose, however, that D hit the ball along the ground to the short-stop (see illustration, p. 27), the latter might quickly field it to the second baseman, who would simply touch the second base, thus putting out C, who has been forced off first base by the batsman, and then throw it rapidly to the first baseman, who, touching the base before D reached it, would put the latter out. A "double play," putting out two men, would thus have been accomplished. B would, if he remained on second base, not be affected by the play, as C being put out, B would not then be forced to run. Of course A, the ball being engaged elsewhere, ought to attempt to reach home, and could doubtless succeed, as the first baseman, unless by exceptional quickness, could not get the ball to the home plate in time to intercept him. The proper play, therefore, under the circumstances mentioned above, would be for the short-

stop, immediately upon securing the batted ball, to throw it to the catcher, who, touching the home plate, would put out A, and then throw it to the third baseman, who, touching that base, would put B out, both these players being obliged to vacate their respective bases to make way for those following them. Of course, D, the batsman in this case, and C (who during the play had reached second base) would not be put out, but their lives could well be spared for the sake of putting out A and B, who were further advanced toward scoring.

#### TOUCHING THE BASE, NOT THE RUNNER.

While in all cases a base-runner may be put out by being touched when off a base with the ball in the hands of a fielder, there are certain circumstances in which it is only necessary that the fielder while holding the ball should touch the base toward which the runner is running.

The reason of this difference lies in the fact that in the one case there is only one base open to the base-runner, while in the other he may, if he fails to reach the base he is making for, return, if he is able, to the one he has left. For illustration, the batsman the moment he makes a fair hit must run to first base. He has no option in the matter. No matter how feeble the hit, provided the ball fall upon fair ground, he must run to first base. If, therefore, the ball is fielded to that base, and the fielder touches the base while holding the ball before the runner reaches the base, the runner is out. So if, when a batsman becomes a base-runner, the first base, or the first and second bases, or the first, second, and third bases, are occupied by base-runners, the base-runners must each advance to the next base respectively. They have no option in the matter, and it is,

therefore, only necessary in order to put any one of them out that a fielder with the ball in his hand shall touch the next base. So, too, if a base-runner leaves a base to which he is entitled after a fly ball has been batted, he must, in case the ball has been caught, return to the base and retouch it, after the ball has been momentarily held by the fielder, before he can proceed. This rule is imperative, and therefore if a fielder having the ball touches the base before the base-runner has returned to it, he is out. If he had any choice in the matter, and might go on or return, it would then be necessary to touch him with the ball, but as there is no such choice it is only necessary to touch the base.

## CHAPTER V.

### "THREE MEN OUT, ALL OUT."

THE great feature of baseball is the rule providing that when three men are out the side is out. It has given life and briskness and variety to the game, and tends to equalize the opportunities for batting and fielding, so that they are evenly distributed between opposing sides. In an ordinary match every player goes to the bat from four to six times during the nine innings, which rarely last more than an hour and a half. He has, therefore, perhaps half a dozen chances for run-making, and assisting others to get runs for his side. If, as before, the nine players of a side are represented by the first nine letters of the alphabet, it will be possible to illustrate the manner in which they go to bat and rotate in regular order. Suppose A, for example, makes a hit. He becomes at once a base-runner, and, if he reaches first base safely, holds that base. B follows, and by

a smart hit also reaches first base, sending A to second. C takes the bat, but is caught out. There is then one man out. D next takes the bat, and by a drive sends A home, but B in running to third base is put out. There are now two men out.

Thus one run has been scored (by A), two men are out (C and B), and there is one base-runner (D at first base). E goes to bat, and while he is waiting for a ball D steals second base. E then hits the ball, but is thrown out at first base. Three men being now out, the innings is closed. This side then takes the field, and the opposite side comes in to bat. When it in turn has lost three men, and thus completed its innings, the first side returns for its second innings. As E was the last man to bat in the previous innings, F is now the first man to bat. Let us suppose that he makes a hit, and that G, H, and I, following, also make hits, E scoring on I's hit. A will then go to bat, and be followed by B, and those after him, until three men have been put out, when the side again retires to the field, and the opposite side comes in for its second innings. The game thus proceeds till both sides have completed nine innings.

It should, however, be noted that "if the side first at bat has scored less runs in nine innings than the other side has scored in eight innings, the game shall terminate." In other words, if A's side goes first to bat, and at the end of its nine innings its score is, say, eight, while X's side has scored nine at the end of its eighth innings, the game shall terminate, for X's has already won the game. So, too, "if the side last at bat in the ninth innings scores the winning run before the third man is out, the game shall terminate" (see *Playing Rule 22, b*). In the case as illustrated above, if A's side has scored eight runs at the

close of its ninth innings, and X's side has scored seven runs at the end of its eighth innings, of course X's side has to make one run to tie the game, and two runs to win it. If it makes but the one run, and a tie results, a tenth innings must be played, or as many more as are necessary to decide the game. But if in the ninth innings before three men are out X's side scores two runs, the game terminates the moment the second run is scored.

It should, perhaps, be stated that no points are scored in the game except runs, and that to make a run it is necessary for the player to make a circuit of the bases, and reach home base. A player may make a hit which enables him to reach third base, or by daring base-running he may steal second and third bases, but if before he can get home the three following players are put out, his hit or his base-running will avail him nothing. So if at the close of an innings three men are left on bases nothing is scored to the side on that account.

This, it will be observed, varies from the rounders rule of giving every batsman and base-runner credit in the total of runs for every base he reaches. If, for instance, he gets to second base, he scores two runs; if to third, three runs; and if home, four runs. In baseball, on the contrary, the batsman scores nothing till he has made the complete circuit of the bases, and then he scores but one run. This rule has been found to work to very great advantage, as it promotes team work and encourages each player to exert his best skill for the good of his side rather than for his own benefit. Many a good player, when there is a base-runner on second or third base, will gladly make a sacrifice hit, that is, will drive the ball into right field, knowing that in doing so the ball will in all probability be fielded to first base before he can reach there, and thus he will lose his own

life, but that while he is being put out the base-runner on second or third base will reach home and score for the side.

## CHAPTER VI.

### FIELDING.

THERE is no department of the game so full of life, activity, and interest to the player as field-work. The fielder is always in motion, and constantly on the alert to put out a batsman or a base-runner, or to assist another fielder to do so. It is a peculiarity of baseball that not only are the movements of the fielders closely watched with keenest anxiety by the other players and the spectators, but it is the only game in which the scorer keeps a record in which the fielders are credited with every play they make tending to put out an adversary, and debited with every error which results in giving a life to an opponent. In cricket, a batsman takes credit, as far as the records go, for as many runs as he can put together, no matter how they are compiled. Many of the largest scores of the most eminent batsmen have been made after a chance, or several chances, to put out the player had been given and missed. The score-sheet does not record this, nor is there any record kept of the man or men who missed the catches. In baseball the batsman is given no credit for hits that were made when they might have been stopped, while the luckless fielder is debited with every error he commits, and these errors as charged up to him appear in the score published in the newspapers, and preserved in the club score-book.

At the end of the season each player's fielding average



is accurately computed by finding the relation his errors bear to the total chances he had to put out men. Suppose, for instance, he played in a dozen or more games, and that in these games he "put out" forty men, "assisted" thirty-five times, and made eight "errors." His total number of chances were eighty-three, of which he accepted seventy-five. His average would, therefore, be expressed by the decimal 0.903. It should, perhaps, in this connection be explained that an "assist" is given to every player who handles the ball in assisting a put-out or other play of the kind. For example, if the batsman sends a ball along the ground, and the short-stop captures it and throws it to first base in time to put out the base-runner, he is given an "assist" for the work—even if the baseman misses the ball and fails to put the runner out. If, however, the short-stop should fumble the ball, and is too slow in handling it, or throws it too widely to put out the runner, he is charged with an "error." Sometimes it happens that the ball passes through two or three hands; in this case each of the players who handles the ball is credited with an assist, except the man who puts the runner out, who is credited with a "put out."

The keeping of this kind of a score naturally stimulates every fielder to make the best possible record; and to accomplish this he will, if he has any interest in the game, put in every spare moment in acquiring a facility in making "pick-ups," all kinds of catches, and in throwing the ball quickly and accurately.

At the outset, however, and before the skill of the men who intend to learn the game is known, the captain may have some difficulty in assigning the players to the different positions. The following suggestions, therefore, may be of some assistance to him:—

## THE PITCHER AND CATCHER.

The two most difficult positions to fill are those of "pitcher" and "catcher." The pitcher is the only player whose position on the field is prescribed by the rules of the game, the others being permitted to play wherever the captain sees fit to station them. The "pitcher's box," as previously described, is a parallelogram four feet wide and five and a half feet long, distant fifty feet from the centre of the home base.

In taking up his position in this box to deliver a ball he must face the batsman and have both feet square on the ground, with one foot on the rear line of the box. He may not raise either foot, unless in the act of delivering the ball, nor make more than one step in delivering it. He must hold the ball before delivery fairly in front of



POSITION OF THE PITCHER.

his body, and in sight of the umpire. Should he raise his arm to deliver the ball to the batsman, and, instead of so doing, pause—either to throw the ball to a base for the purpose of catching a base-runner off his base or to make a feint to do so—the umpire must at once call a "balk," in which case the batsman may take his base (that is go to first base as if he had made a hit), and whatever base-runners are on bases may also advance a base. A balk



THE PITCHER AND CATCHER, BATSMAN, AND UMPIRE.

is defined by the rules as any motion made by the pitcher to deliver the ball to the bat without delivering it.

The only restrictions whatever on the pitcher's delivery are that he must face the umpire before beginning the movement to pitch the ball ; that once this movement is begun it must be completed ; that in the act of delivering the ball he must keep his right foot on the back line of the box (or his left foot if he is left-handed), until in the swing of his arm he moves his body, and that then he may raise the rear foot and take one step in advance, and one only.



LAST MOVEMENT IN PITCHING.

The delivery may be fast, medium, or slow ; under-hand, over-hand, round-arm, or straight-arm ; or a jerk, a pitch, a toss, or a throw.

Originally, and for many years, the pitcher was required to pitch the ball. As the interest in matches increased, and the pitchers became expert in their delivery, a tendency was manifested to raise the arm higher and higher. It was often difficult for an umpire to decide when the rule had been transgressed, and disputes constantly occurred. Finally all restrictions were removed, and the pitcher may now raise his arm and hand as high as he likes.

The ball must, however, be delivered over the home base, and at an altitude not higher than the batsman's shoulder or lower than his knees. Of course it will be the object of the pitcher while doing this to deceive the batsman as much as possible to prevent him hitting the

ball. Expert pitchers among the professionals in America have acquired such proficiency, that they are in many cases



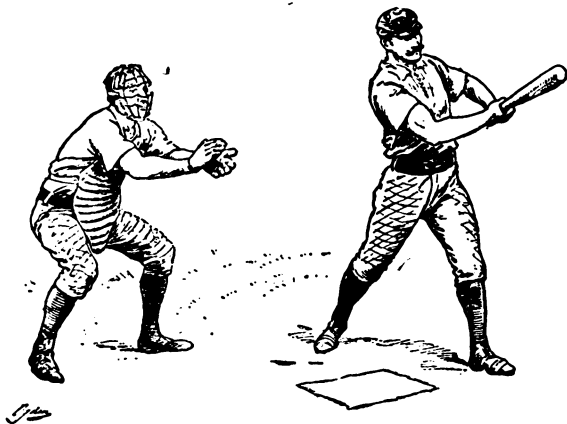
DELIVERING THE BALL.

able to completely outwit the batsman, and force them either to "strike out," or hit the ball in such a way as to be readily put out by the fielders. These pitchers are able to break the ball in the air, and to give it such a curve that, either while apparently going wide of the plate it suddenly becomes a "good ball," or while starting out apparently a good ball it suddenly swerves off out of reach of the batsman. They also are able to command the pace of the ball to

such an extent as to deliver a ball at great speed or slowly with apparently the same motion and degree of effort. Such expertness is neither expected or required of amateurs, and among beginners it will suffice if the pitcher can control his delivery, so that at a fairly good pace he can send the balls over the home plate and at the required altitude. He should be quick in his motions, and keep a watchful eye on the bases to prevent base-runners getting too great a take-off. Above all things, he should keep cool and guard his temper, no matter how hard he is being batted, or how many errors the supporting fielders may make.

## THE CATCHER

must be a plucky and fearless player. The pitcher and catcher are often called "the battery," and the catcher is obliged to face the hot shot poured into him by the pitcher. He must not only be a good catch, but a quick and accurate



THE CATCHER BEHIND THE BAT.

thrower also. The distance from where he stands (close up behind the bat) to the second base is considerably over forty yards, and on his ability to throw that distance after quickly recovering himself from catching the ball, the winning or the losing of the game depends. When there are no runners on the bases, and until two strikes have been called on the batsman, the catcher stands from fifteen to twenty yards behind the home base, and has nothing to do but return the ball to the pitcher. When, however, there are men on the bases, or if two strikes or three balls have been called, and a

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missed third strike or a fourth ball would entitle the runner to make an attempt for first base, the catcher should stand up close behind the batsman and, dodging the swinging bat, catch the ball. Otherwise the throw to the base would be too great to catch the runner.

### THE IN-FIELDERS.

Next in importance after "the battery," are the in-fielders—the three basemen and the short-stop. In selecting them the captain should pick out men who are not only good catchers, but good throwers. They must be quick of foot, arm, and head, and must know what to do at each critical point and how to do it. They should be trained to assist and "back up" each other, so that any error made by one should have as slight consequences as possible.



FIRST BASEMAN  
CATCHING A HIGH-  
THROWN BALL.

### THE FIRST BASEMAN.

In choosing a man for the position of first baseman care should be exercised in picking out a player who is a sure catch of swiftly, and even wildly, thrown balls. He should have a long reach, and be able to hold the ball at the extremest stretch of his body while touching the base with one foot. In a majority of instances the moment a ball is captured by an in-fielder he throws it with all his strength to the first baseman. If the latter lacks courage or skill and lets it go past him, the damage is irretrievable, as the base-

runner will make a dash for the next base and may possibly reach home. There is an art in catching a swiftly thrown ball which may be acquired by practice; but a few trials will quickly show whether the man has in him the makings of a first baseman. If he has not it is simply time thrown away to try to teach him to cover the base. In fact, he is an expensive incumbrance in any in-field position, and if retained at all on the nine, as may perhaps be advisable on account of his batting, he should be relegated to the outfield, where his chances to commit errors are comparatively few. A good catcher of thrown balls is usually a graceful fielder, and can readily be distinguished by the ease and sureness with which he handles the ball in practice.

#### SECOND AND THIRD BASEMEN AND SHORT-STOP.

The second and third basemen, as well as the short-stop, should be selected on account of their suppleness and agility. Their chief work consists in neatly and quickly picking up swiftly batted ground balls, and accurately throwing them either to first or one of the other bases to intercept a base-runner. The second and third basemen should also be sure catchers of thrown balls, as both the catcher and pitcher will, when there are men on bases, throw without warning to the men guarding these bases, either to catch the runners "napping," or to head them off if they have started to run for the next base. The short-stop is a



CATCHING A RUNNER OFF  
HIS BASE.



general utility man, and should be prepared to play the second base in case a left-handed man is at bat, or when the second baseman is playing away from his base, and the catcher attempts a throw-out at that base. He should also be alert to back up both second and third bases, to quickly recover a thrown ball that is too wide for the baseman to recover or has been poorly fielded, and to run into the field to assist an outfielder to return a long hit into the diamond. In throwing a ball which a short-stop or a



PICKING UP A  
"GROUNDER."

baseman has picked up hot from the bat, coolness and judgment should be exercised. To face the ball requires nerve and precision. Its bound must be calculated both as to speed, distance, and direction. In the excitement of the moment it is not always easy to hold it securely, and for that reason the fielder should practise himself in the exercise of deliberation. A great majority of the

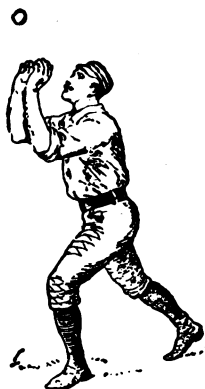
misplays arise from the haste of the fielder to throw the ball, and as a result it either slips out of the hand as the arm is raised, or goes a dozen feet or more over the head or wide of the reach of the baseman. If the fielder schools himself to stop after the fielding of the ball, and pause long enough to recover his footing and direct his aim, his chance of making errors will be greatly lessened.

It should be said in this connection that under no circumstances should a "shy" or a "jerk" be permitted, even from the extremest limits of the out-field. Such a handling of the ball is allowable in cricket, where the chance of throwing out a batsman by stumping him is not very great. But in baseball there is no time for such a slovenly movement. The ball should be thrown as smartly and

with as great precision as the fielder is capable of. Skill in throwing should be cultivated by constant practice. The ball should be grasped firmly in the hand, with the index and the next finger over the ball, and it should then be thrown with as little movement of the body as possible, the arm being lifted high above the shoulder and brought straight forward to give a quick impetus to the ball. It is somewhat remarkable that this way of grasping the ball, which seems to be confined at this time to baseball players, is exactly the style of handling the ball among the ancient Greeks, as illustrated by fragments of sculpture in the British Museum.

#### THE OUT-FIELDERS.

The out-fielders should be selected with reference to their ability to catch difficult, hard-hit fly balls, and speedily return the ball to the in-field. There are few positions so trying to an inexperienced player as the out-field. This was proved by the experience of the professional players in England in 1890. Many of them, beginning as tyros, soon acquired a most commendable proficiency, but in every instance these were men who were assigned to in-field positions. The out-fielders, with hardly an exception, were unable to accept half the chances offered them. The out-fielder should be instructed to keep constantly alert, and to try for everything that comes into his territory. If it be a ball swiftly bounding along the ground, he should face it or try to intercept it by fleet running. And if it be a fly-ball, he should not wait patiently for it to come into his



CATCHING A FLY-BALL.

hands, but should run up to it, or to one side or the other, until he can get under it, and thus capture it. A good fielder can judge with great accuracy where the ball will come, and if he is too far in will have time in many cases to turn his back to the ball, run out a dozen yards or more, and then turn again and make the catch.



MAKING A RUNNING  
CATCH.

There should, therefore, be no repose in the attitude of an out-fielder, but, on the contrary, he should be constantly on the move, and prepared to make a quick play not only in capturing the ball, but in sending it back on the instant to the in-field. The habit, so common, of tossing the ball into the air after catching it must of course be abandoned. It is not consistent with the play in baseball, where the fielder, to accomplish a double play or to prevent a base-runner stealing a base, must act quickly and be prepared for a hasty throw. Generally speaking, the out-fielder, upon catching a fly ball or recovering a ball that rolls along the ground, should throw the ball to the second baseman, as that position is to a certain extent the keystone of the in-field. There are, of course, exceptions to this rule, which the out-fielder will learn by experience, but until he does acquire them, he will do well, whether playing in right-field, centre-field, or left-field, to throw the ball to second base the moment he gets it.

## CHAPTER VII.

## HINTS FOR LEARNING THE GAME.

It is difficult for those who have never seen a game played, no matter how simple it may be, to acquire a practical knowledge of it from printed instructions. The embarrassment in trying to learn baseball without an experienced teacher is, perhaps, greater than in the majority of other outdoor games, on account of the fact that it appears at first to resemble rounders, and yet differs widely from that crude sport, and also from the fact that the published rules are full of technical expressions, and have been drafted to cover points which have arisen in matches between professional clubs playing for national supremacy in contests where the keenest rivalry has at times tempted individual players to encroach upon the established laws of the game. As has been stated elsewhere, the rules of baseball will not be found to be either complicated or obscure when once the rudiments are mastered. When a player can be found who has participated in a game or watched a few contests, no difficulty will occur in breaking in novices; but as there are hundreds of athletic organizations desirous of trying baseball, none of whose members have the slightest knowledge of it, the following suggestions, which are the result of successful experience, may be of value:—

The most intelligent of the number should be called together, and the general plan of the game carefully studied. For this purpose there can be no better text-book than a score-sheet of a game which has been played. Under the chapter on scoring two such score-sheets are given. With the aid of the diagram on p. 27, the game as

recorded on p. 64 may easily be followed through every detail of play, as the score shows the order in which the players in this match went to the bat, the hits they made, and how and by whom they were put out. After this game has been carefully read, innings by innings, the movement of each player being followed on the diagram, the intending players may go into the field.

### MARKING OUT THE GROUND.

The laying out of the ground is a simple matter, as the coachers' lines and catcher's lines need not be marked for practice games, and any square stone let into the ground, or a square marked on the ground with whitening, will serve for the home base. The position of the home base should first be selected, and it would be well to place it on the east or south side of the field, so that the afternoon sun will be on the backs of the fielders. Having determined the position of the home base, measure off from this, in a direct line down the field, 127 feet and four inches, which will be the site of second base. Then take a cord 180 feet long; have one man standing on home plate hold one end, and another man standing on second base hold the other end. If a third man, grasping this line exactly in the middle, carry it to the farthest limit he can reach toward the right of the man standing on the home plate, this limit will be the site of first base. If then, still holding the middle of the line, and the ends of the line being still held by the men on home and second bases respectively, he walk directly across the field, the limit of his tether will mark the position of third base. The points thus indicated will be found to be the corners of a square, the sides of which are each ninety feet long. With a tennis marker a sufficient line can be made from base to base, and the "diamond" will thus

be laid out. It will then, if bases are used, only be necessary to fasten these bases in position, which may easily be done by driving a spike with a ring in the end into the ground, and strapping the base fast through this ring. The next and only remaining bit of work is to mark the position of the "foul" posts or flags, which may easily be done by sighting with the eye an imaginary line extended through home and first base on one side, and home and third base on the other side. These foul flags may be put at any distance out in the field, and as an assistance to the umpire, it would be well to mark the line to them with the tennis marker.

#### SELECTING THE PLAYERS.

The ground having thus been laid out, let us suppose there are eighteen men ready to learn the game. Two leaders, or captains, should be first selected, and they in turn will "pick up" the respective sides. Before beginning the game, both captains should make a list of their players in the order in which they think it best to send them to bat, and then should assign them to the positions they are to fill in the field. As all are tyros, this assignment both as to batting order and fielding will be a matter of speculation; but it is probable that the capacities of the men have been to some extent tested by their experience in cricket, football, lacrosse, hockey, or other games. In giving them their fielding positions, the captain should select his best catcher and thrower for the catcher's position; a man who can throw well and without tiring for pitcher, and a tall man and a plucky one for first baseman. Of the remainder, he will put those who can handle the ball best on the bases, and the others in the out-field.

These assignments having been made by both captains,

and indicated by placing the initials of the positions after the players' name—C., to represent catcher; P., pitcher; 1 B., first base; 2 B., second base; 3 B., third base; S.S., short-stop; R.F., right field; C.F., centre field; and L.F., left field;—the next thing is to take the men on the field and station them at their respective places. This done, let the captain (who will probably play first base himself, as that is a point from which he can most easily direct the movements of his men) withdraw the pitcher and catcher from their respective positions, and place one of them, with ball in hand, on the home base, directing him to throw the ball along the ground, easily at first and then sharply, to each of the in-fielders in turn, and instructing the latter to field it as quickly as possible, and the moment they get it in hand to throw it to first base. This will allow them to ascertain by practical experience how the ball should be handled, and the care and speed which must be used in making the in-field throws. In like manner the ball should be thrown several times to the out-fielders in turn, first bringing them in toward the bases, and as they gather confidence in catching high-thrown balls, sending them gradually back until they reach the proper distance at which they will be required to play. After a quarter of an hour of this practice, let a batsman take the place of the thrower at home base and try to bat the ball to the in-fielders and out-fielders in turn. Few players will be able with the bat to direct the course of the ball with sufficient accuracy at the first attempt, but practice will enable a good batsman to get more and more command of it.

The stopping of a batted ball is a very different thing from the stopping of a thrown ball, and hence the advantage of this kind of drill. If the captain, during the performance

and after the players have become accustomed to throwing to first base, direct them to throw to the other bases, by calling out the name of the base, it will greatly assist the beginners, as it will familiarize them with the position of the bases and the strength necessary to throw to them accurately and quickly. It is supposed that while one side is having this practice, the other will be looking on, and thus be ready with greater quickness to acquire familiarity with the play when its turn for the preliminary practice begins. Both sides having indulged in fifteen or twenty minutes of this kind of exercise, the game proper may then be begun.

#### HOW TO BAT.

It will hardly be necessary to practise the men at batting, as that feature of the game will be readily acquired by experience of actual play. It should, however, be borne in mind that batting in baseball is very different to batting in cricket. In the latter there are stumps to protect, and the bat is held as a guard to the wickets. In baseball the striker should stand erect, with both feet together, the weight thrown on the ball of the left foot, which is placed slightly in advance of the right foot. The bat should be grasped firmly with both hands a few inches from the end of the handle of the bat, and held perpendicularly over the shoulder. In hitting the ball the motion should be with the wrist and arms, and not with the shoulder and body.

A "swipe," or a "pull" is the worst kind of a hit, and



HOW TO HOLD  
THE BAT.



the batsman who attempts either should immediately be reproved by his captain. The object in hitting the ball is not to send it up in the air or a long distance in a sky-curve, but to drive it just over the heads of the in-fielders or between them. This can be accomplished by wrist and arm play much better than by throwing the whole weight of the body into the stroke. The latter usually results in a miss of the ball and a spin around that is apt to throw the striker off his feet. The bat should be treated as a good billiard player handles his cue, or a violinist his bow. Above all things the batsman should bear constantly in mind that the success of his side is the one thing to be achieved, and should shape his efforts accordingly. He should post himself as to the number of men out, and the state of the score, and if there are men on bases, the consequences to them of a hit in any particular direction. Then he should shape his hit accordingly, counting the result to himself personally as of little matter if he can bring home a man for his side.

An umpire will be necessary in all matches, but in practice games the catchers of the respective sides may discharge the umpire's functions, and it will be taken for granted that the player who occupies the catcher's position will have familiarized himself with the rudiments at least of the game.

## CHAPTER VIII.

### THE SCORING.

SCORING in baseball may be a very simple or a very complex matter. In practice games it will suffice if a record is kept of the rotation in which the players go to the bat, the order in

which they are put out, and the number of runs scored. If numerals are used to designate an out, and a dot (.) to show when a run is made, a simple score may be kept as shown on p. 64.

More than this, however, is necessary, if a reasonably full and correct score is required, such as will show the character of the batting, by whom it was done, and the several performances of the fielders. Generally speaking, the following points of play should be recorded:—The number of times a batsman goes to bat; the number of times he is sent to base for being hit with a pitched ball; the number of times he is sent to base on account of the pitcher's illegal delivery; the number of times he is sent to base on four bad balls; the number and character of base-hits he made; the number of runs he scored; the number of men each player put out; the number he assisted to put out; and the number of errors he made. The record is still hardly complete without showing the number of sacrifice hits (see *Technical Terms*, p. 79) and stolen bases by each player, and the passed balls, strikes, and wild pitches; but the scorer may be excused if he fails to note these until he has become expert in keeping the run of the essentials named above.

In making the entries in his score-book, each individual scorer will doubtless employ terms of his own invention, and will find a system of mnemonics and word abbreviations which will serve his purpose, however unintelligible they may be to others. There is, however, a great advantage in uniformity of symbols, as by their use any one understanding them, may years afterwards read a game recorded by another. The simplest system, perhaps, was devised years ago by Mr. Henry Chadwick, and is now in use by many persons who report matches for the newspapers. It is too

Preston North End .. Aston Villa .. Deepdale .. J. Brown .. Umpire

North End	Pos	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	Times at B	R	B	SB	P.O.	A	E
1 Hendry	2B	1	.			3			1			1					
2 Hinsey	3B	2	.	2			1		3			1					
3 Masking	C	.		3						1		1					
4 Sanders	LF	3	.		1		2					1					
5 Lufford	RF		2		2		3			2		1					
6 Gillespie	SS		.		3			1		3		1					
7 Stewart	CF		3					2				1					
8 Trainer	1B		1	1		1		3				0					
9 Hogan	P	.				2			2			1					
TOTAL		0	8	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		8					

Earned Runs .. 3 Base Hits .. 3 Base Hits .. Home Runs .. Bases Struck  
 Double Plays .. Triple Plays .. Bases on Called Balls .. Bases on Hit by Pitched Balls  
 Struck out by .. Passed Balls .. Wild Pitches by .. Time of Game .. Umpire

Preston North End .. Aston Villa .. Deepdale .. J. Brown .. Umpire

Aston Villa	Pos	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	Times at B	R	B	SB	P.O.	A	E
1 F. Barr	1B	.	.			.		2				3					
2 J. Doney	3B	1	.	3								1					
3 Simon	C	.	.		1							2					
4 W. Barr	CF	.				3		3				1					
5 Hiddawson	LF	.			2				1			1					
6 Dawson	SS	2	2		3		1		2			0					
7 Brown	P		3			.	2		3			1					
8 Cowan	2B	3		1		1	3					0					
9 Simmonds	RF		1	2		2		1				0					
TOTAL		4	3	0	0	2	0	0	0			9					

Earned Runs .. 3 Base Hits .. 3 Base Hits .. Home Runs .. Bases Struck  
 Double Plays .. Triple Plays .. Bases on Called Balls .. Bases on Hit by Pitched Balls  
 Struck out by .. Passed Balls .. Wild Pitches by .. Time of Game .. Umpire

GAME SIMPLY SCORED—PRESTON NORTH END 2. ASTON VILLA.

complex for the average scorer, but modified in some respects will be found most useful. He indicates a base-hit by a cross ( $\begin{array}{|c|} \hline \text{—} \\ \hline \end{array}$ ) for one-base hit, a double cross ( $\begin{array}{|c|} \hline \text{—} \text{—} \\ \hline \end{array}$ ) for a two-base hit, a triple cross ( $\begin{array}{|c|} \hline \text{—} \text{—} \text{—} \\ \hline \end{array}$ ) for a three-base hit, and a cross with four arms ( $\begin{array}{|c|} \hline \text{—} \text{—} \text{—} \text{—} \\ \hline \end{array}$ ) for a home run.

The movements of the player may be denoted by the following signs and abbreviations :—H., hit by the pitcher ; B., base on balls ; K., struck out ; P., passed ball ; S., sacrifice hit ; F., out on a fly ; Fo., out on a foul ; R., run-out between bases ; (.), a run ; 1, 2, 3, outs in the order in which they occur ; and the same numerals enclosed in a circle to indicate left on bases, and to show which base the runner was left on.

It is taken for granted that the scorer is more or less familiar with the game, sufficiently so at least to determine the difference between a "safe hit," or a base hit, and an error. Unless this discrimination can be made, the task of scoring should not be attempted, as it would be unfair to entrust one so ignorant with the accounts between the players. The definitions of these terms will be found in the list of Technical Terms, on p. 79. These learned, the scorer will be able to read or translate the *fac-simile* of a score of a game actually played, given on p. 64.\* It will be observed that it is the same game illustrated by the score on p. 62 ; but while that is a mere skeleton, the whole story is told here.

On the left of the names of the players are numerals, showing the order in which they go to bat. These numerals

\* This score is from the note-book of Mr. Busby, the official scorer of the Preston North End Club.

Preston North End .. Aston Villa .. Deepdale, F. Brown .. Umpire.

North End	Pos	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	Time at P.	R.	B.	S.H.	P.O.	A.	E.
1 Hendry	2B	$\frac{6-1}{1}$	+	E8 ②		$\frac{7-1}{3}$			$\frac{3-8}{1}$		...	.	.	.	..	...	
2 Rivesey	3B	$\frac{2-1}{1}$	+	$\frac{3-4}{2}$			$\frac{3-4}{1}$		$\frac{6-1}{3}$		...	.	.	.		...	
3 Maskrey	C	+ ①	$\frac{1-1}{1}$	$\frac{2-9}{5}$			B			$\frac{K3}{1}$	...	.	..	.	.		
4 Sanders	L.F.	$\frac{3-4}{5}$	B 7-30		$\frac{3-1}{1}$		$\frac{3-6}{2}$			+ ③	...	.	.	..	..		
5 Bolford	R.F.		$\frac{9-1}{2}$	$\frac{3-3}{2}$			$\frac{3-4}{2}$			$\frac{3-4}{1}$	...	.	.	.	.		
6 Ellaspie	S.S.		B ③	$\frac{2-1}{5}$				$\frac{9-1}{1}$		$\frac{3-2}{3}$	...	.	.	.	.		
7 Stewart	C.F.		H $\frac{6-1}{5}$			B ②		$\frac{3-2}{2}$			...	.	.	.	.		
8 Trainer	1B		$\frac{K3}{1}$	$\frac{2-1}{1}$		$\frac{3-2}{1}$		$\frac{6-1}{3}$			...	.	.	.	.		
9 Hogan	P.		+	E6 ④		$\frac{K3}{2}$			$\frac{+3-8}{2}$		...	.	..	.	.		
TOTAL		0	8	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	38	8	8			24	142

Earned Runs 4 .. 3 Base Hits 1 .. 3 Base Hits .. Home Runs 1 .. Runs Scored 2  
 Double Plays .. Triple Plays .. Runs on Called Balls 5 .. Runs on Hit by Pitched Balls 7  
 Struck out by .. Passed Balls .. Wild Pitches by .. Time of Game 1 hr. 40. Umpire

Preston North End .. Aston Villa .. Deepdale, F. Brown .. Umpire.

Aston Villa	Pos	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	Time at P.	R.	B.	S.H.	P.O.	A.	E.
1 F. Barr	1B	+	+	E2 ①		$\frac{1-1}{1}$		$\frac{3-9}{2}$			...	.	.	.	...		
2 J. Devery	3B	$\frac{+2-8}{1}$	+	$\frac{1-8}{3}$		+ ③		+ ③			...	.	.	.	...		
3 Simon	C	+	+		E5 $\frac{3-1}{1}$	+ ①		+ ①			...	.	.	.	...		
4 W. Barr	C.F.	+	+ ③		B	$\frac{3-4}{3}$		$\frac{3-5}{3}$			...	.	.	.	...		
5 Widdowson	L.F.	$\frac{1-1}{1}$	+ ①		$\frac{3-2}{2}$		+ ①		$\frac{3-4}{1}$		...	.	.	.	...		
6 Dawson	S.S.	$\frac{2-8}{2}$	$\frac{3-4}{2}$		$\frac{2-8}{3}$		$\frac{2-8}{1}$		$\frac{3-2}{2}$		...	.	.	.	...		
7 Brown	P.	+ ②	$\frac{3-9}{3}$			+	$\frac{3-2}{2}$		$\frac{1-8}{3}$		...	.	.	.	...		
8 Cowan	2B	$\frac{6-8}{3}$		+ $\frac{6-1}{1}$		$\frac{6-8}{1}$	$\frac{1-8}{3}$				...	.	.	.	...		
9 Simmonds	R.F.		$\frac{3-1}{1}$	$\frac{1-8}{2}$		$\frac{1-8}{2}$		$\frac{1-8}{1}$			...	.	.	.	...		
TOTAL		4	3	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	42	19			27	163	

Earned Runs 9 .. 3 Base Hits 4 .. 3 Base Hits .. Home Runs 1 .. Runs Scored 1  
 Double Plays 1 .. Triple Plays .. Runs on Called Balls 1 .. Runs on Hit by Pitched Balls  
 Struck out by .. Passed Balls .. Wild Pitches by .. Time of Game 1 hr. 45. Umpire

GAME SCORED IN DETAIL—PRESTON NORTH END v. ASTON VILLA.

serve a further purpose also, for they designate the movement of each player in the field. This understood, the game reads in detail as follows :—

## FIRST INNINGS.

*North End.*—Hendry going first to bat, hits the ball to Dawson (6) at short field, who, fielding the ball, throws it to F. Barr, standing on first base. This puts Hendry out, and the play is indicated 6—1, showing the ball was thrown by Dawson, S.S. (6), to F. Barr, 1 B (1). The numeral underneath, 1, as if it were the denominator in an expression in fractions, indicates that Hendry is out, and that he is the first out. In order to complete the record of this movement, a dot (.), or tally, must be made in the column headed "Times at B." opposite Hendry's name; another dot (.) in the column headed "P.O." opposite F. Barr's name, to give him credit for a "put out;" and still another dot (.) in the column opposite Dawson's name, headed "A.," to give the latter credit for his "assist." Had F. Barr failed to hold the thrown ball, this record would have been made: 6—1 E., thus showing that Dawson made an assist, which, however, did not result in an out, as Barr made an error. Dawson would still be credited with an assist, but Barr would be charged with an error.

Livesey, the next batsman, hit the ball in the direction of third base, where it was fielded by Devey (2), who threw it to F. Barr (1) at first base, the ball being held there by Barr before Livesey could reach the base, and he was accordingly put out by the play. The play is recorded 2—1, with a figure 2 underneath to show that Livesey was the second man out. An assist is given to Devey, and another put-out to F. Barr.

Maskrey, the third hand to bat, made a hit, and as he could go no further than first base on it, it is recorded by making a cross with a single arm. His hit, however, availed nothing, as Sanders, the next batsman, hit the ball high into the out-field, where it was caught by W. Barr (4), the play being written F. 4, with the figure 3 underneath to show that Sanders was the third man out. Credit is given to W. Barr for a put-out. As Maskrey was left on first base, that fact is indicated by the figure 1 enclosed in a circle. Three men being out, the side is out, and retires to the field, the Aston Villas coming in to bat.

*Aston Villa.*—F. Barr is the first batsman, and makes a safe hit. Devey follows, and also hits safely, sending F. Barr to third base. Unfortunately Devey, in getting ready to attempt to steal second base, leaves first base, and while too far to return is thrown out by Hogan, the pitcher (9). This play is denoted by the expression 9—8, with 1 underneath to show that Devey is the first out. The credit of an assist is given to Hogan, and a put-out to Trainer.

Simon following, also makes a hit on which F. Barr runs home, and a dot records the run, which is an earned one, no error having being made. W. Barr, the next batsman, makes a safe hit, on which he gets to second base. This, being a two-base hit, is indicated by a cross with two arms. Widdowson following, makes a home run, shown by a cross with four arms, driving Simon and W. Barr home also. Thus three more runs, all earned, have been scored.

Dawson, the next batsman, is not so successful, the ball going from his bat to Livesey (2), who throws it across the diamond to Trainer (8) at first base before the runner reaches there. This play is indicated by 2—8, with a 2

underneath to show Dawson was the second out. Brown follows with another two-base hit, but Cowan, who comes next to bat, hits the ball into short field, and is thrown out by Gillespie (6) to Trainer (8). The figure 3 below the 6—8 shows that three men are now out, and the innings is thus closed, Brown being left on second base. The score stands at 4 to 0 in favour of Aston Villa.

#### SECOND INNINGS.

*North End.*—The North Enders make a grand rally at the bat in this innings. As Sanders was the third man out in the previous inning, Colford goes first to bat, and makes a hit. Gillespie, who follows, is lucky enough to have four bad balls delivered to him, and goes to first base, the play being indicated by the letter B. He is not given a turn at bat, as he was given his base by an error of the pitcher. Colford moves up to second base to make room for Gillespie. Stewart also takes his base by a battery error, being hit by the pitcher (see Rule 44, sec. 4, of Playing Rules, p. 91), which forces Colford to third base and Gillespie to second, in order to make room at first for Stewart.

Trainer strikes three times ineffectually at the ball, and "strikes out," the play being recorded K 3, Simon (3), the catcher, having caught the ball. Hogan, however, makes a safe hit, and Colford and Gillespie come home on the play, Stewart going to third base. Hendry also makes a hit, sending Stewart home. Livesey keeps up the batting by rapping out a single, on which Hogan scores and Hendry by good running gets to third base. Maskrey then makes a home drive, bringing in Hendry and Livesey also. Sanders is given his base on four bad balls. Colford, who comes



to bat the second time this innings, hits the ball out to Simmonds (9), who by a good throw to F. Barr (1) at first base, disposes of the batsman, the play being recorded 9—1, with a 2 below to mark the second hand out. Gillespie is given his base on balls, and goes to first base, which has been vacated for him by Sanders, the latter having run to second base on the play that put Colford out. From second base Sanders steals third, and then makes a dash for home. Brown (7), the pitcher, throws the ball to the catcher, Simon (3), but the latter is not able to hold it, and on the error the runner tallies. The play is indicated by the expression 7—3 E, thus showing that Brown made what should have been an assist, and that Simon made an error and permitted Sanders to score. The latter is credited with two stolen bases. Stewart finishes the innings by batting to Dawson (6), who throws the runner out at first base, the play being indicated by 3—1, with 3 below to show that Stewart was the third out.

This inning has yielded no less than eight runs, of which, however, only four are "earned," the others having been made on errors. The score now stands at 8 to 4 in favour of the North Enders, and the Aston Villas come in to play their second innings.

*Aston Villa.*—Cowan having been the third out in the previous inning, Simmonds goes first to bat. He hits a fly to centre field, which is caught by Stewart (7). F. Barr following, makes a two-base hit. Devey also hits safely, advancing F. Barr a base. Simon then makes a hit on which F. Barr and Devey score. W. Barr follows with a hit which enables Simon to get home. Widdowson makes a hit; but Dawson, who succeeds him at the bat, sends a fly to Sanders (4), and is the second out. Brown fares no better, being caught on an easy fly by Hogan (9), the pitcher,

and the side is all out, Barr being left at third base and Widdowson at first. Three runs, however, have been added to the score, which now stands at 8 to 7 in favour of the North Enders.

### THIRD INNINGS.

*North End.*—Trainer being first to bat, Stewart having been the third out in the former innings, bats the ball to Devey (2), who gets it to F. Barr (1) in time to put the batter out. Hogan sends up a fly to Dawson (6), who misses it, and Hogan reaches first base safely, the play being recorded E 6, to show that the runner got his base on an error made by Dawson. Hendry is also given a life, Cowan (8) missing the catch; Livesey, however, is caught by W. Barr (4) in centre-field, and Maskrey is caught by Simmonds (9) in right-field. This being the third out, the innings is closed for no runs, Hogan not being able to get further than third base, while Hendry is left at second.

*Aston Villa.*—Cowan being first to bat, makes a hit and secures first base. Simmonds unfortunately bats the ball to Gillespie (6) at short-field, who throws it to Hendry (1) at second base. The latter touches that base, which puts out Cowan, who is forced to vacate first base to make room for Simmonds, and then throws the ball to first base in time to put out Simmonds. This makes a double play, Cowan having been put out 6—1 and Simmonds 1—8. F. Barr through an error of Livesey (E 2) gets to first base, but is left there, Devey sending the ball to Hendry (1), who throws it to Trainer (8). This makes the third out; and no runs having been scored, the game still stands at 8 to 7 in favour of the North Enders.

## FOURTH INNINGS.

*North End.*—The side is quickly disposed of, Sanders, the first batsman, being thrown out on a missed third strike by Simon (3) to F. Barr (1); Colford hits a foul ball, which is caught by Simon (Fo. 3); while Gillespie feebly bats to Devey (2), who quickly fields it across the diamond to F. Barr (1).

*Aston Villa.*—This side also is unable to score. Simon, by an error of Colford (5) in missing a fly-catch, gets to first base. In attempting to steal to second base he is put out on a throw from the catcher Maskrey, (3) to Hendry (1). W. Barr, on four bad balls, gets to first base. Widdowson puts up a foul, which is caught by Simon (3), making the second out. Dawson hits the ball in the direction of third base, and Livesey (2) sends it to Trainer (8) in time to get the runner out, thus closing the inning.

## FIFTH INNINGS.

*North End.*—Stewart is given his base on balls. Trainer, not so fortunate, knocks up a foul ball, which is caught by Devey (Fo. 2). Hogan strikes out, the third strike being caught by Simon (3). Hendry, upon whom all hope now rests, hits the ball only to the pitcher, Brown (7), who throws it to F. Barr (1), putting the runner out, and leaving Stewart on second base. Thus again the North Enders are dismissed without being able to add to their score.

*Aston Villa.*—Brown makes a base hit. Cowan, who follows, bats to Gillespie (6), who throws to Trainer (8), putting Cowan out. (The better play would have been to attempt a double, Gillespie throwing to Hendry, who, by touching second base, would have put out Brown and then

had time to get the ball to Trainer before Cowan reached first base.) Simmonds bats to Hendry (1), and is thrown out at first base to Trainer (8), Brown going to third on the play. F. Barr makes a hit on which Brown scores. Devey and Simon both make safe hits, on which F. Barr scores, but are left at third and first, W. Barr being caught by Sanders, thus making the third out. As two runs have been scored, the game has changed, and is now 9 to 8 in favour of Aston Villa.

## SIXTH INNINGS.

*North End.*—Livesey goes out on a fly to W. Barr (4). Maskrey is given his base on balls. Sanders is caught by Dawson (6), and Colford, the third hand, bats the ball into the hands of Simmonds (9).

*Aston Villa.*—Widdowson succeeds in making a safe hit, but it avails nothing, the three following batsmen going out in regular order—Dawson being thrown out at first by Livesey (2—8), Brown fouling out to the same player (Fo. 2), while Cowan, batting to Hendry, enabled that player to get the ball to first base before the runner reached it (1—8). The score is unchanged.

## SEVENTH INNINGS.

*North End.*—Gillespie sends the ball to Simmonds, who throws it to F. Barr (9—1) in time to intercept the runner. Stewart fouls out to Devey (Fo. 2), and Trainer is unable to get the ball further than Dawson (6) at short-field, who throws it to F. Barr (1). Thus again the innings is closed for no runs.

*Aston Villa.*—This side also is unable to score, although

two safe hits are made. Simmonds goes out from Hendry to Trainer (1—8). F. Barr hits the ball, but it falls into Hogan's hands (F. 9), and thus two men have been quickly disposed of. Devey makes a hit, and so does Simon; but both are left on the bases—one at third and the other at first—W. Barr being caught by Colford (F. 5).

#### EIGHTH INNINGS.

*North End.*—Hogan makes a hit. Hendry sends up an easy fly to Cowan, who captures it (F. 8). Then Hogan in attempting to steal second is thrown out by Simon to Cowan (3—8), and Livesey, who hits to short-field, is thrown out by Dawson to F. Barr (6—1).

*Aston Villa.*—It is fortunate this side has the lead, as it is also unable to add to its score. Widdowson hits a long fly to the out-field, but it is caught by Sanders (F. 4). Dawson in a similar attempt is caught by Stewart (F. 7), and Brown is thrown out by Hendry to Trainer (1—8).

#### NINTH INNINGS.

*North End.*—It is the last chance for the North Enders, who have only one run to make to tie the game and two to win it. They are, however, in this instance, unequal to the occasion. Maskrey strikes out (K 3); Sanders encourages his side by making a two-base hit, but cannot score, Colford being put out by a fly-catch by W. Barr (F. 4), and Gillespie on a foul fly by Devey (Fo. 2).

This ends the game, as the Aston Villas are already one run more than their opponents and are therefore not obliged to play their ninth innings, as if they made any runs it would only serve to increase their victory, already won.

## THE SUMMARY.

After the game has been thus recorded it is summarized as follows for publication :—

NORTH END.	AB.	R.	IB.	PO.	A.	E.	ASTON VILLA.	AB.	R.	IB.	PO.	A.	E.
Hendry, 1 b. . .	5	1	1	2	6	0	F. Barr, 1 b. .	5	3	3	11	0	0
Livesey, 3 b. . .	5	1	1	0	3	1	Devey, 3 b. . .	5	0	4	3	3	0
Maskrey, c. . .	4	1	2	1	1	0	Simon, c. . .	5	0	4	4	2	1
Sanders, lf. . .	4	1	1	3	0	0	W. Barr, cf. . .	4	0	2	4	0	0
Colford, rf. . .	5	1	1	1	0	1	Widdowson, lf.	5	0	3	0	0	0
Gillespie, s.s. .	3	0	0	0	3	0	Dawson, s.s. .	5	0	0	1	4	1
Stewart, cf. . .	3	1	0	2	0	0	Brown, p. . .	5	0	2	0	2	0
Trainer, 1 b. . .	4	0	0	12	0	0	Cowan, 2 b. . .	4	0	1	2	3	1
Hogan, p. . .	4	1	2	3	1	0	Simmonds, rf. .	4	0	0	2	2	0
Total . . . .	37	7	8	24	14	2	Total . . . .	42	3	19	27	16	3

Earned runs—Aston Villa 9, North End 4. Two-base hits—F. Barr 1, Simon 1, W. Barr 1, Brown 1, Sanders 1. Home runs—Widdowson 1, Maskrey 1. Bases stolen—Sanders 2. Double plays—Gillespie, Hendry, and Trainer. Bases on balls—W. Barr, Sanders, Gillespie 2, Maskrey, Stewart. Bases on hit by ball—Stewart. Struck out—By Brown 3. Time of game, 1 hr. 45 min. Umpire, F. Brown.

## BATTING AVERAGES.

It should be noted that a batsman must not be charged with a "time at bat" if he be sent to base by being hit by a pitched ball, by the pitcher's illegal delivery, or by a base on balls. The reason of this is that his batting average is made up by computing the number of hits he makes in proportion to the number of times at bat. He may, for instance, go to bat seven times in a game, and, through the illegal or wild delivery of the pitcher, be sent to base every time without having the opportunity afforded him of making a single clean hit, or base hit. He would, therefore, be entitled to no credit whatever for batting, as he had, through the error of the pitcher, no opportunity of showing what he could do at the bat. But if, out of the seven times, he was sent twice to base on the pitcher's errors, got there twice

on fielder's errors (that is, through a fielder missing a catch or making a wild throw), and three times on clean base hits, his record would be : Times at bat, five ; hits, three ; average, 0.600.

## CHAPTER IX.

### THE UMPIRE.

THE umpire is by no means the least important individual on the baseball field. As there is but one umpire and no referee, he is the sole master of the game, and his decision is final. His position, though a thankless one, is that of an absolute ruler, and unless the players implicitly obey and respect his rulings, they had better abandon the game altogether. The umpire is not only required to pass upon questions and matters in dispute, as in cricket and football, but must promptly decide, without being appealed to, every point of play. So onerous have become his duties, and so great the tax upon him in a closely contested match between rival clubs, that in several baseball organizations the rules require two umpires. In the majority of cases, however, there is only one in service.

In selecting an umpire, great care should be exercised to choose a person who is thoroughly familiar with the rules and laws of the game, and who also possesses good judgment, firm decision, an even-balanced mind, and a cool temper. He is called upon to interpret the laws, as well as to decide the points, of play. He must render his decisions without a moment's hesitation, and then adhere to them. He cannot stop to reason out a point in his own mind, or to hear the arguments of angry players, or balance the

testimony of partizan spectators. He may often decide in error, but it is better to make a prompt decision and stick to it, even if questionable, than to waver and change his mind on the appeals of bystanders. The effect of an erroneous decision will rarely be attended with serious consequences if the umpire schools himself to decide a player "not out" whenever confusion arises as to what is the right ruling.

When two umpires are employed, one of them takes the duty of passing on "strikes" and "balls" and "fouls," while the other confines his attention exclusively to the play about the bases. When only one is in service, he should stand directly behind the batsman and catcher, as in the illustration on pp. 27, 46. The position of the second umpire is seen on p. 33. As, however, the employment of two umpires is not usual, the following remarks will refer to the duties of a sole umpire.

The sway of the umpire begins even before "play" has been called, for he must see that the rules governing all the materials of the game are strictly complied with, and that the ground is properly laid out. He is not at the outset, however, a judge of the condition of the ground as to its fitness for play. The captain of the home team must decide that point. But if after the game has begun rain falls, and play is interrupted, he has power to suspend the game, and in case the rain ceases within less than thirty minutes, he may compel the players to resume play. Of the necessity for calling "time," on account of the rain, and of resuming, he is the sole judge.

The rules require him to "count and call" every unfair ball, and "count and call" every strike. As, in addition to this, he must decide upon every catch and every base-play, it follows that he must keep his eye constantly upon



the ball while it is in play. He should stand so that he will be able to judge, first, whether the pitcher is in his proper position when he delivers the ball; and, second, whether the ball passes over the home plate at the right altitude. He must, as the ball passes the home plate, call out, distinctly, "one ball," "two balls," etc., or "one strike," "two strikes," etc. Every ball that is not hit by the batsman must be a "strike" or a "ball."

Should the batsman hit the ball, the umpire must be alert to ascertain whether it is "fair" or "foul." As it leaves the bat he should run to the home plate and, sighting the foul line, watch whether it descend on "fair" territory or "foul" territory. If a fielder catches the ball as it descends, the position of his body at the instant of catching the ball will determine whether the hit was "foul" or "fair." A ball which strikes the ground on the foul line is a fair hit; so, too, if the fielder is standing directly on the line while catching the ball, it is a fair ball. A ball which strikes on fair ground and then twists or screws off across the foul line between home and first base, or home and third base, is a foul hit. If, however, it rolls from fair to foul ground across the line beyond first base, or beyond third base, it is a fair hit.

In deciding points of play about the bases, the umpire should, as far as possible, run toward the base in question before the play is executed, in order to have a better opportunity of judging of it.

Where there is a question as to whether a fielder has touched a player or a base before a runner has reached it, the decision must be in favour of the runner. In other words, the players of the side having the innings are in the position of an accused person on his trial, and be given the benefit of any doubt that may arise. They must be

regarded as "safe" until they have been proved to have been put out. Where a runner reaches a base simultaneously with the ball, the umpire must decide the runner "not out," for the rule plainly declares that the ball must be held by the baseman on the base before the runner touches it.

"Holding the ball on the base" means having the ball in hand while some part of the fielder's person is touching the base. The fielder may, therefore, have the tip of his toe or his heel only on the base, while stretching his body to its fullest extent away from the base to catch a widely thrown ball, and still comply with the rule. So, too, a base-runner may lie prostrate on the ground and extended at full length away from his base, yet if even the tip of his finger or some portion of his clothing is in contact with the base he is "safe." As the runner is obliged to touch the base, it follows that if he is in contact with it, no matter how far it may be out of place, having become loosened, he is, nevertheless, in the right.

The base-runner is required to keep within the lines, running from base to base, and if he runs out of this three-foot path to avoid the ball in the hands of a fielder, he must be decided out. But the umpire should remember that it is only when the runner runs out of the path to avoid the ball that he is to be declared out. In many instances when a batsman has made a long hit, he will in his rapid running describe a circle on his way around the bases. As long as he touches each base he will satisfy all requirements. To oblige him to run on a straight line, and make a sharp and precise turn at each base, would be to impose a penalty not contemplated by the rules.

Constant friction must necessarily arise between the umpire and the players. However the former decides the

ruling must be adverse to one or other of the parties. The pitcher, who is working at full pressure, mentally and physically, trying, with alternations of strategy and force, to baffle the striker, will undoubtedly consider himself aggrieved if every ball that is fairly good is called a "ball," and not a "strike." A fielder who has made a good stop of a slashing hit, and thrown the ball hurriedly across the diamond, will feel a natural vexation if the umpire decides that the ball has not beaten the batsman in the race for the base. A few close and questionable decisions will convert disappointment and vexation on the part of the players into resentment and rebellion, which are too often encouraged by partizan spectators. If the umpire in such an emergency is not firm, and loses his head or his temper, the game had better be abandoned entirely, for only wrangling and contention will ensue.

The rules forbid any of the players, except the captains, to question the correctness of any decision made by the umpire, or leave their positions "to approach or address him in word or act upon such disputed decision." In order to assist him in maintaining discipline, he is given authority to punish the unruly players in three ways: First, he may forfeit the game to the opposing club; second, he may inflict a fine of from twenty shillings to five pounds; and, third, he may order the offender out of the game and off the field. As the offender is usually the captain, and the latter is one of the most important players for his side, the fear of this punishment generally keeps even the most irascible within bounds.

## CHAPTER X.

## TECHNICAL TERMS.

*Assist.*—The credit given by the scorer to a fielder who handles the ball in assisting to put out a player.

*Balk.*—A motion made by the pitcher as if to deliver the ball, which is not completed by delivering the ball. (See Rule 32, Playing Rules, p. 93.)

*Ball.*—A pitched ball, which does not pass over the home plate, or, if it does pass over the home plate, does so at an altitude lower than the batsman's knees or higher than his shoulder.

*Base hit.*—A hit made by a batsman out of reach of the fielders, or so sharply hit to an in-fielder that he cannot handle it in time to put out the batsman.

*Base on balls.*—When a batsman is awarded first base by the umpire on "four balls" called on the pitcher, the batsman is said to "take his base on balls."

*Batsman's box.*—The space which the batsman must occupy, as defined in Rule 9 of the Playing Rules, p. 88.

*Battery.*—The pitcher and catcher.

*Block ball.*—A batted or thrown ball handled by an outsider. (See Rule 35, Playing Rules, p. 93.)

*Coaching lines,* or "captain's lines," are lines drawn fifteen feet from, and parallel with, the "foul" lines, and mark the limits to be occupied by the captain, or coacher, and one assistant, in instructing the movements of the base-runners.

*Dead ball.*—A pitched ball that strikes the batsman's bat without being struck at, or his person or clothing, or the person or clothing of the umpire.

*Diamond.*—The quadrangle enclosed by the base lines, and at the corner of which are the bases.

*Double play.*—A play upon which two men are retired at the same time.

*Earned run.*—A run made by a player unaided by errors of the fielders, before chances have been offered to put out the side.

*Error.*—A misplay of a fielder which allows a base-runner to make one or more bases, when perfect play would have ensured his being put out.

*Fair ball.*—A ball delivered by the pitcher standing in his box, which passes over the home plate not lower than the batsman's knee or higher than his shoulder.

*Fair hit.*—A batted ball which strikes the ground within the foul-lines.

*Fly ball.*—A ball which leaves the bat so that it may be caught before touching the ground.

*Forced out.*—When a player is forced to vacate a base in order to make room for a succeeding base-runner, and is put out by a fielder touching him with the ball, or touching the next base, with the ball or with any part of his person while holding the ball.

*Foul ball.*—A foul hit (*q.v.*).

*Foul hit.*—A batted ball which strikes the ground outside the foul lines. (See Rule 38, Playing Rules, p. 94.)

*Foul lines.*—The lines which extend from the home base through first base and through third base, respectively, to the extremity of the field.

*Foul strike.*—A ball batted when the batsman is out of the box.

*Foul tip.*—A foul hit not rising above the batsman's head, and caught by the catcher standing within ten feet of the home base.

*Grounder.*—A ball batted along the ground.

*Home plate.*—The “home base” (*q.v.*).

*Home run.*—A base hit (*q.v.*) on which the batsman makes the circuit of bases, and scores.

*In-fielders.*—The catcher, pitcher, first, second, and third batsmen, and the short-stop.

*Long fly.*—A fly ball which is batted to the out-field.

*Out-fielders.*—The right, centre, and left fielders.

*Passed Ball.*—A pitched ball which the catcher fails to stop, and on which a base-runner is advanced a base.

*Pitcher's box.*—The space which the pitcher must occupy, as defined in Rule 5 of the Playing Rules.

*Put out.*—The credit given by the scorer to a fielder for putting out a player of the opposite side.

*Sacrifice hit.*—A hit which advances a base-runner one or more bases, but upon which the batsman is put out.

*Safe hit.*—A base hit (*q.v.*).

*Short-field.*—The part of the field where the short-stop plays.

*Stolen base.*—A base secured by a base-runner unaided by a hit made by a succeeding batsman.

*Strike.*—A vain attempt of the batsman to hit a ball delivered to him by the pitcher, or his refusal to try to hit a good ball delivered to him by the pitcher.

*Strike out.*—A batsman strikes out when he fails to hit the ball, and has three strikes call on him.

*Three-bagger.*—A “three-base hit.”

*Three-base hit.*—A “base hit” (*q.v.*) which enables a batsman to reach third base.

*Triple play.*—A play upon which three men are retired at one time.

*Two-bagger.*—A “two-base hit.”

*Two-base hit.*—A “base hit” (*q.v.*) which enables a batsman to reach second base.

*Unfair ball.*—The converse of a “fair ball.” (See Rule 31, Playing Rules, p. 92.)

*Wild pitch.*—A ball pitched so wide of the proper requirements that it is out of the reach of the catcher, and a base-runner secures an advance of one or more bases therefrom.

*Wild throw.*—A ball thrown by a fielder out of reach of the fielder to whom he directed it.

## CHAPTER XI.

### LAWS OF THE GAME IN BRIEF.

A LARGE number of persons desirous of playing baseball, and having no other guide than the voluminous “Playing Rules,” have abandoned the sport, having lost their way in the waste of technicalities, conditions, exceptions, and apparent contradictions, and become discouraged with the idea that the game is an unnecessarily complicated one. Those who have reached this conclusion, and others who may attempt to go through the rules without first ascertaining the reason for them, should remember that baseball is a game which has grown to its present state of scientific play within the last fifty years, that it has enthusiastic votaries in all ranks and classes in America, and that the matches for the championship in that country are witnessed by hundreds of thousands of people, and played by professionals who are paid extravagant salaries, and urged by all kinds of inducements to win the coveted prize. It has therefore been found necessary to add rule after rule to the

simple code of laws which first governed the game, in order to cover attempted violations of the spirit as well as the letter of these rules. It should also be borne in mind that in the rules as now published, it is attempted to cover every mooted point, and to provide against disputes of all kind. How well the framers of these laws have succeeded may be inferred from the fact that during the past five years, none of the large bodies governed by them have had occasion to meet during the playing season to hear a protest or try a case based upon a violation of the rules.

At the same time the very exactness thus made necessary operates against the rules, when those unacquainted with the game attempt to master them. For this reason these rules have been abridged and put in as simple a form as possible. It is hoped that, with the aid of the diagram of the ground given on p. 24 (see also p. 27), "The Game in Brief," and the glossary of "Technical Terms," the reader will be able to acquire a complete mastery of the laws of the game, and thoroughly comprehend the Playing Rules which are published as an appendix.

### THE GAME IN BRIEF.

1. There are nine players on a side.
2. When three men of the batting side are out, all are out, and the innings is closed.
3. Nine innings constitute a game.
4. In every innings the players must bat in regular order, beginning, in the first innings, with the first on the list; in subsequent innings the first man to bat is the next on the list after the third batsman out in the preceding innings.

5.

#### THE BATSMAN

must strike at every good ball delivered to him by the pitcher. A "good ball" is one which passes over the home plate not lower than the batsman's knee or higher than his shoulder.



6. If the batsman refuses to strike at a good ball, the umpire must call a "strike."

7. If the batsman strikes at any kind of a ball, good or bad, and fail to hit it, the umpire must call a "strike."

8. If the umpire call three "strikes," the batsman is out (see exceptions below, 14 j).

9. If the pitcher delivers any other than a good ball (as defined above), the umpire must call a "ball."

10. If the umpire calls four "balls," the batsman is entitled to take his base.

11. If the batsman hits the ball and it falls outside the foul lines, it is a "foul hit," and counts for nothing.

12. If the batsman hits the ball and it falls within the foul lines, it is a "fair hit."

### 13. THE BATSMAN BECOMES A BASE-RUNNER

(a) When he makes a fair hit.

(b) Instantly after four "balls" have been called by the umpire.

(c) Instantly after three "strikes" have been called by the umpire.

(d) If the batsman's person or clothing is hit by a ball from the pitcher.

(e) Instantly after the illegal delivery of a ball by the pitcher (see Playing Rules 32, p. 93).

### 14. THE BATSMAN IS OUT

(a) If he fails to take his position at bat in the order of batting.

(b) If he fails to take his position at bat within one minute after the umpire has called for the batsman.

(c) If he makes a "foul strike" (that is, if he hits the ball when standing outside the batsman's box).

(d) If he attempts to hinder the catcher from fielding the ball.

(e) If three "strikes" are called on him, and there is a base-runner on first base.

(f) If, while making the third "strike," the ball hits his person or clothing.

(g) If, after two "strikes" have been called on him, he obviously attempts to make a "foul strike."

[Note here the difference between a "foul hit" and a "foul strike." A "foul hit" is a ball batted by the batsman, standing

in his position, that first touches the ground behind the foul lines. A "foul strike" is a ball batted by the batsman when standing outside the lines of his position.]

(h) If the ball, whether "foul" (see 11, p. 84) or "fair," from his bat is caught before touching the ground.

(i) If the third "strike" ball is caught before touching the ground.

(j) If, after making a fair hit, or after the third "strike" (the ball in the latter case not being caught), he is touched with the ball in the hands of a fielder before he reaches first base.

(k) If, after three "strikes" or a fair hit, the ball is securely held by a fielder who is touching with any part of his person the first base.

(l) If, in running the last half of the distance to first base, he runs outside the three-foot line, except to avoid interfering with a player in fielding the ball.

#### ENTITLED TO A BASE.

15. The base-runner may take one base (without being put out) in the following cases :—

(a) If the umpire awards a succeeding batsman a base, and the base-runner is thereby forced to vacate a base to make room for the batsman or for the next following base-runner.

(b) If the umpire call a "balk." (For definitions of a "balk" see Rule 32 of the Playing Rules, p. 93.)

(c) If a ball delivered by the pitcher passes the catcher and touches the umpire or any fence or building within ninety feet of the home plate.

(d) If upon a fair hit the ball strikes the umpire standing on fair ground.

(e) If a fielder catches the ball with his hat or any part of his dress.

#### 16. THE BASE-RUNNER MUST RETURN

to his base after having left it to make another, and may so return without being put out in the following cases :

(a) If the umpire calls a "foul hit."

(b) If the umpire calls a "foul strike."

(c) If the umpire calls a "dead ball." (For definition of a dead ball, see Rule 33, p. 93.)

#### 17. THE BASE-RUNNER IS OUT

(a) If, in running from first to second bases, or second to third, or third to home, he runs more than three feet out of a

direct line to avoid being touched by the ball in the hands of a fielder.

(b) If he obstructs a fielder attempting to field a batted ball, or interferes with a thrown ball.

(c) If at any time while the ball is in play he is touched with the ball in the hands of a fielder, unless some part of his person is touching the base he is entitled to occupy—provided the ball is held by the fielder while touching him. In running to first base, however (and that base only), he may over-run the base and cannot be put out in returning to it; provided (1) he returns at once and retouches the base, and (2) that in making the turn to come back he turns to the *left*. If he turns to the right it is an indication that he is trying to get to second base, and may therefore be put out while off the base.

(d) If after a fly ball is caught he is touched before he has returned to the base he was entitled to occupy when the fly ball was struck.

(e) If when the batsman becomes a base-runner the first base, or the first and second bases, or the first, second, and third bases are occupied, any base-runner so occupying a base ceases to be entitled to hold it until the base-runner following him is put out, and may be put out at the next base if that base is touched by a player holding the ball, or the runner may be put out by being touched with a ball.

(f) If a fair hit ball strikes him before touching a fielder.

(g) If, when running to a base, or forced to return to a base, as in (d), he fails to touch an intervening base.

(h) If when the umpire calls "play" after any suspension of a game the runner fails to return to and retouch the base he occupied when "time" was called.

## 18.

## A RUN IS SCORED

by a base-runner when, after having touched the first base, second base, and third base, he touches home base before three men are out.

# APPENDIX.

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## AUTHORIZED PLAYING RULES.

THE following rules have been made by the Board of Control of all organizations playing under the National Agreement in the United States and Canada, and have been adopted by the National Baseball League of Great Britain and the Baseball Association of Great Britain and Ireland :—

### THE BALL GROUND.

1. The Ground must be an enclosed field, sufficient in size to enable each player to play in his position as required by these Rules.
2. The Infield must be a space of ground thirty yards square.

### THE BASES.

3. The Bases must be—

§ 1. Four in number, and designated as First Base, Second Base, Third Base, and Home Base.

§ 2. The Home Base must be of whitened rubber twelve inches square, so fixed in the ground as to be even with the surface, and so placed in the corner of the In-field that two of its sides will form part of the boundaries of said In-field.

§ 3. The First, Second, and Third Bases must be canvas bags, fifteen inches square, painted white, and filled with some soft material, and so placed that the centre of the Second Base shall be upon its corner of the In-field, and the centre of the First and Third Bases shall be on the lines running to and from Second Base and seven and a half inches from the Foul Lines, providing that each base shall be entirely within the Foul Lines.

§ 4. All the bases must be securely fastened in their positions, and so placed as to be distinctly seen by the Umpire.

## THE FOUL LINES.

4. The Foul Lines must be drawn in straight lines from the outer corner of the Home Base, along the outer edge of the First and Third Bases, to the boundaries of the Ground.

## THE POSITION LINES.

5. The Pitcher's Lines must be straight lines forming the boundaries of a space of ground, in the In-field, five and a half feet long by four feet wide, distant fifty feet from the centre of the Home Base, and so placed that the five and a half feet lines would each be two feet distant from and parallel with a straight line passing through the centre of the Home and Second Bases. Each corner of this space must be marked by a flat round rubber plate six inches in diameter, fixed in the ground even with the surface.

6. The Catcher's Lines must be drawn from the outer corner of the Home Base, in continuation of the Foul Lines, straight to the limits of the Ground back of Home Base.

7. The Captain's or Coacher's Line must be a line fifteen feet from and parallel with the Foul Lines, said lines commencing at a line parallel with and seventy-five feet distant from the Catcher's Lines, and running thence to the limits of the grounds.

8. The Player's Lines must be drawn from the Catcher's Lines to the limits of the Ground, fifty feet distant from and parallel with, the Foul Lines.

9. The Batsman's Lines must be straight lines forming the boundaries of a space on the right, and of a similar space on the left of the Home Base, six feet long by four feet wide, extending three feet in front of and three feet behind the centre of the Home Base, and with its nearest line distant six inches from the Home Base.

10. The Three-feet Lines must be drawn as follows:—From a point on the Foul Line from Home Base to First Base, and equally distant from such bases, shall be drawn a line on Foul Ground, at a right angle to said Foul Line, and to a point three feet distant from it; thence running parallel with said Foul Line, to a point three feet distant from the First Base; thence in a straight line to the Foul Line, and thence upon the Foul Line to point of beginning.

11. The lines designated in Rules 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, and 10 must be marked with chalk or other suitable material, so as to be distinctly seen by the Umpire. They must all be so marked their entire length, except the Captain's and Player's Lines, which must be so marked for a distance of at least thirty-five yards from the Catcher's Lines.

## THE BALL.

## 12. The Ball—

§ 1. Must not weigh less than five or more than five and a quarter ounces avoirdupois, and measure not less than nine nor more than nine

and a quarter inches in circumference. The Spalding League Ball or the Reach American Association Ball must be used in all games played under these rules.

§ 2. For each Championship Game two balls shall be furnished by the Home Club to the Umpire for use. When the ball in play is batted over the fence or stands, on to foul ground out of sight of the players, the other ball shall be immediately put into play by the Umpire. As often as one of the two in use shall be lost, a new one must be substituted, so that the Umpire may at all times, after the game begins, have two for use. The moment the Umpire delivers a new or alternate ball to the Pitcher it comes into play, and shall not be exchanged until it, in turn, passes out of sight on to foul ground. At no time shall the ball be intentionally discoloured by rubbing it with the soil or otherwise.

§ 3. In all games the ball or balls played with shall be furnished by the Home Club, and the last ball in play becomes the property of the winning club. Each ball to be used in Championship Games shall be examined, measured, and weighed by the Secretary of the Association, enclosed in a paper box and sealed with the seal of the Secretary, which seal shall not be broken except by the Umpire in the presence of the Captains of the two contesting nines after play has been called.

§ 4. Should the ball become out of shape, or cut or ripped so as to expose the yarn, or in any way so injured as to be, in the opinion of the Umpire, unfit for fair use, the Umpire, on being appealed to by either Captain, shall at once put the alternate ball into play and call for a new one.

#### THE BAT.

##### 13. The Bat—

§ 1. Must be made wholly of wood, except that the handle may be wound with twine, or a granulated substance applied, not to exceed eighteen inches from the end.

§ 2. It must be round, except that a portion of the surface may be flat on one side, but it must not exceed two and a half inches in diameter in the thickest part, and must not exceed forty-two inches in length.

#### THE PLAYERS AND THEIR POSITIONS.

14. The players of each club in a game shall be nine in number, one of whom shall act as Captain, and in no case shall less than nine men be allowed to play on each side.

15. The player's positions shall be such as may be assigned them by their Captain, except that the Pitcher must take his position within the Pitcher's Lines, as defined in Rule 5. When in position on the field, all players will be designated "Fielders" in these Rules.

16. Players in uniform shall not be permitted to seat themselves among the spectators.

17. Every Club shall be required to adopt uniforms for its players.

and each player shall be required to present himself upon the field during said game in a neat and cleanly condition, but no player shall attach anything to the sole or heel of his shoes other than the ordinary baseball shoe plate.

#### THE PITCHER'S POSITION.

18. The Pitcher shall take his position facing the Batsman with both feet square on the ground, one foot on the rear line of the "box." He shall not raise either foot, unless in the act of delivering the ball, nor make more than one step in such delivery. He shall hold the ball, before the delivery, fairly in front of his body, and in sight of the Umpire. When the Pitcher feigns to throw the ball to a base he must resume the above position and pause momentarily before delivering the ball to the bat.

#### THE BATSMEN'S POSITION—ORDER OF BATTING.

19. The Batsmen must take their positions within the Batsmen's Lines, as defined in Rule 9, in the order in which they are named on *the score*, which must contain the batting order of both nines, and be submitted by the Captains of the opposing teams to the Umpire before the game, and when approved by him THIS SCORE must be followed except in the case of a substitute player, in which case the substitute must take the place of the original player in the batting order. After the first inning the first striker in each inning shall be the batsman whose name follows that of the last man who has completed his turn—time at bat—in the preceding inning.

20. § 1. When their side goes to the bat the players must immediately return to and seat themselves upon the Players' Bench and remain there until the side is put out, except when batsman or base-runner. All bats not in use must be kept in the bat racks, and the two players next succeeding the batsman, in the order in which they are named on the score, must be ready with bat in hand to promptly take position as batsman; provided, that the Captain and one assistant only may occupy the space between the Players' Lines and the Captain's Lines to coach base-runners.

§ 2. No player of the side at bat, except when Batsman, shall occupy any portion of the space within the Catcher's Lines, as defined in Rule 6. The triangular space behind the Home Base is reserved for the exclusive use of the Umpire, Catcher, and Batsman, and the Umpire must prohibit any player of the side "at bat" from crossing the same at any time while the ball is in the hands of, or passing between, the Pitcher and Catcher, while standing in their positions.

§ 3. The players of the side "at bat" must occupy the portion of the field allotted them, but must speedily vacate any portion thereof that may be in the way of the ball, or of any Fielder attempting to catch or field it.

## PLAYERS' BENCHES.

21. The Players' Benches must be furnished by the Home Club, and placed upon a portion of the ground outside the Players' Lines. They must be twelve feet in length, and must be immovably fastened to the ground. At the end of each bench must be immovably fixed a bat rack, with fixtures for holding twenty bats; one such rack must be designated for the exclusive use of the Visiting Club, and the other for the exclusive use of the Home Club.

## THE GAME.

22. § 1. Every Championship Game must be commenced not later than two hours before sunset.

§ 2. A game shall consist of nine innings to each contesting nine, except that,

(a) If the side first at bat scores less runs in nine innings than the other side has scored in eight innings, the game shall then terminate.

(b) If the side last at bat in the ninth inning scores the winning run before the third man is out, the game shall terminate.

## A TIE GAME.

23. If the score be a tie at the end of nine innings to each side, play shall only be continued until the side first at bat shall have scored one or more runs than the other side, in an equal number of innings, or until the other side shall score one or more runs than the side first at bat.

## A DRAWN GAME.

24. A Drawn Game shall be declared by the Umpire when he terminates a game on account of darkness or rain, after five equal innings have been played, if the score at the time is equal on the last even innings played; but if the side that went second to bat is then at the bat, and has scored the same number of runs as the other side, the Umpire shall declare the game drawn without regard to the score of the last equal innings.

## A CALLED GAME.

25. If the Umpire calls "Game" on account of darkness or rain at any time after five innings have been completed by both sides, the score shall be that of the last equal innings played, unless the side second at bat shall have scored one or more runs than the side first at bat, in which case the score of the game shall be the total number of runs made.

## A FORFEITED GAME.

26. A forfeited game shall be declared by the Umpire in favour of the club not in fault, at the request of such club, in the following cases :—



§ 1. If the nine of a club fail to appear upon a field, or, being upon the field, fail to begin the game within five minutes after the Umpire has called "Play," at the hour appointed for the beginning of the game, unless such delay in appearing or in commencing the game be unavoidable.

§ 2. If, after the game has begun, one side refuses or fails to continue playing, unless such game has been suspended or terminated by the Umpire.

§ 3. If, after play has been suspended by the Umpire, one side fails to resume playing within *one minute* after the Umpire has called "Play."

§ 4. If, in the opinion of the Umpire, any one of these Rules is wilfully violated.

§ 5. If, after ordering the removal of a player, as authorized by Rule 57, § 5, said order is not obeyed within five minutes.

§ 6. In case the Umpire declares a game forfeited, he shall transmit a written notice thereof to the President of the Association within twenty-four hours thereafter.

#### NO GAME.

27. "No Game" shall be declared by the Umpire if he shall terminate play on account of rain or darkness, before five innings on each side are completed.

#### SUBSTITUTES.

28. § 1. In every Championship Game each team shall be required to have present on the field, in uniform, one or more substitute players.

§ 2. Any such player may be substituted at any time by either club; but no player thereby retired shall thereafter participate in the game.

§ 3. The Base-runner shall not have a substitute run for him, except by consent of the Captains of the contesting teams.

#### CHOICE OF INNINGS—CONDITION OF GROUND.

29. The choice of innings shall be given to the Captain of the Home Club, who shall also be the sole judge of the fitness of the ground for beginning a game after rain.

#### THE DELIVERY OF THE BALL—FAIR AND UNFAIR BALLS.

30. A Fair Ball is a ball delivered by the Pitcher while standing wholly within the lines of his position, and facing the Batsman, the ball, so delivered, to pass over the Home Base, not lower than the Batsman's knee, nor higher than his shoulder.

31. An Unfair Ball is a ball delivered by the Pitcher, as in Rule 30, except that the ball does not pass over the Home Base, or does pass over the Home Base, above the Batsman's shoulder, or below the knee.

## BALKING.

32. A Balk is—

§ 1. Any motion made by the Pitcher to deliver the ball to the bat without delivering it, and shall be held to include any and every accustomed motion with the hands, arms, or feet, or position of the body assumed by the Pitcher in his delivery of the ball and any motion calculated to deceive a Base-runner, except the ball be accidentally dropped.

§ 2. The holding of the ball by the Pitcher so long as to delay the game unnecessarily; or,

§ 3. Any motion to deliver the ball, or the delivering the ball to the bat by the Pitcher when any part of his person is upon ground outside of the lines of his position, including all preliminary motions with the hands, arms, and feet.

## DEAD BALLS.

33. A Dead Ball is a ball delivered to the bat by the Pitcher that touches the Batsman's bat without being struck at, or any part of the Batsman's person or clothing while standing in his position without being struck at; or any part of the Umpire's person or clothing, while on foul ground, without first passing the Catcher.

34. In case of a Foul Strike, Foul Hit ball not legally caught out, Dead Ball, or Base-runner put out for being struck by a Fair Hit ball, the ball shall not be considered in play until it is held by the Pitcher standing in his position.

## BLOCK BALLS.

35. § 1. A Block is a batted or thrown ball that is stopped or handled by any person not engaged in the game.

§ 2. Whenever a Block occurs the Umpire shall declare it, and Base-runners may run the bases, without being put out, until the ball has been returned to and held by the Pitcher standing in his position.

§ 3. In the case of a Block, if the person not engaged in the game should retain possession of the ball, or throw or kick it beyond the reach of the Fielders, the Umpire should call "Time," and require each Base-runner to stop at the last base touched by him until the ball be returned to the Pitcher standing in his position.

## THE SCORING OF RUNS.

36. One Run shall be scored every time a Base-runner, after having legally touched the first three bases, shall touch the Home Base before three men are put out, with this exception, that if the third man is forced out, or is put out before reaching First Base, a run shall not be scored.

## THE BATTING RULES.

37. A Fair Hit is a ball batted by the Batsman, standing in his position, that first touches the ground, the First Base, the Third Base,

any part of the person of a player, Umpire or any other object that is in front of or on either side of the Foul Lines, or batted directly to the ground by the Batsman, standing in his position, that (whether it first touches Foul or Fair Ground) bounds or rolls within the Foul Lines, between Home and First or Home and Third Bases, without interference by a player.

38. A Foul Hit is a ball batted by the Batsman, standing in his position, that first touches the ground, any part of the person of a player, or any other object that is behind either of the Foul Lines, or that strikes the person of such Batsman, while standing in his position, or batted directly to the ground by the Batsman, standing in his position, that (whether it first touches Foul or Fair ground) bounds or rolls outside the Foul Lines, between Home and First or Home and Third Bases, without interference by a player. Provided, that a Foul Hit not rising above the Batsman's head, and caught by the Catcher playing within ten feet of the Home Base, shall be termed a Foul Tip.

#### BALLS BATTED OUTSIDE THE GROUNDS.

39. When a batted ball passes outside the grounds, the Umpire shall decide it Fair should it disappear within, or Foul should it disappear outside of the range of the Foul Lines, and Rules 37 and 38 are to be construed accordingly.

40. A Fair batted ball that goes over the fence at a less distance than two hundred and ten feet from Home Base shall entitle the Batsman to two bases, and a distinctive line shall be marked on the fence at this point.

#### STRIKES.

41. A Strike is—

§ 1. A ball struck at by the Batsman without its touching his bat ; or,

§ 2. A Fair Ball legally delivered by the Pitcher, but not struck at by the Batsman.

§ 3. Any obvious attempt to make a Foul Hit.

42. A Foul Strike is a ball batted by the Batsman when any part of his person is upon ground outside the lines of the Batsman's position.

#### THE BATSMAN IS OUT.

43. The Batsman is out—

§ 1. If he fails to take his position at the bat in his order of batting, unless the error be discovered and the proper Batsman takes his position before a fair hit has been made ; and in such case the balls and strikes called must be counted in the time at bat of the proper Batsman ; *provided*, this rule shall not take effect unless *the out* is declared before the ball is delivered to the succeeding Batsman.

§ 2. If he fails to take his position within one minute after the Umpire has called for the Batsman.

§ 3. If he makes a Foul Hit, other than a Foul Tip as defined in Rule 38, and the ball be momentarily held by a Fielder before touching the ground, provided it be not caught in a Fielder's hat or cap, or touch some object other than a Fielder, before being caught.

§ 4. If he makes a Foul Strike.

§ 5. If he attempts to hinder the Catcher from Fielding the ball, evidently without effort to make a Fair Hit.

§ 6. If, while the First Base be occupied by a Base-runner, three strikes be called on him by the Umpire, except when two men are already out.

§ 7. If, while making the third strike, the ball hits his person or clothing.

§ 8. If, after two strikes have been called, the Batsman obviously attempts to make a Foul Hit, as in Section 3, Rule 41.

## BASE-RUNNING RULES.

### WHEN THE BATSMAN BECOMES A BASE-RUNNER.

44. The Batsman becomes a Base-runner—

§ 1. Instantly after he makes a Fair Hit.

§ 2. Instantly after four balls have been called by the Umpire.

§ 3. Instantly after three strikes have been declared by the Umpire.

§ 4. If, while he be a Batsman, his person or clothing be hit by a ball from the Pitcher, unless, in the opinion of the Umpire, he intentionally permits himself to be so hit.

§ 5. Instantly after an illegal delivery of a ball by the Pitcher.

### BASES TO BE TOUCHED.

45. The Base-runner must touch each base in regular order, viz. First, Second, Third, and Home Bases; and when obliged to return (except on a Foul Hit) must retouch the base or bases in reverse order. He shall only be considered as holding a base after touching it, and shall then be entitled to hold such base until he has legally touched the next base in order, or has been legally forced to vacate it for a succeeding Base-runner.

### ENTITLED TO BASES.

46. The Base-runner shall be entitled, without being put out, to take the Base in the following cases:—

§ 1. If, while he was Batsman, the Umpire called four balls.

§ 2. If the Umpire awards a succeeding Batsman a base on four balls, or for being hit with a pitched ball, or in case of an illegal delivery—as in Rule 44, Section 5—and the Base-runner is thereby forced to vacate the base held by him.

§ 3. If the Umpire calls a "Balk."

§ 4. If a ball delivered by the Pitcher pass the Catcher and touch

the Umpire or any fence or building within ninety feet of the Home Base.

§ 5. If, upon a Fair Hit, the ball strikes the person or clothing of the Umpire on fair ground.

§ 6. If he be prevented from making a base by the obstruction of an adversary.

§ 7. If the Fielder stop or catch a batted ball with his hat or any part of his dress.

#### RETURNING TO BASES.

47. The Base-runner shall return to his Base, and shall be entitled to so return without being put out.

§ 1. If the Umpire declares a Foul Tip (as defined in Rule 38) or any other Foul Hit not legally caught by a Fielder.

§ 2. If the Umpire declares a Foul Strike.

§ 3. If the Umpire declares a Dead Ball, unless it be also the fourth Unfair Ball, and he be thereby forced to take the next base, as provided in Rule 46, Section 2.

§ 4. If the person or clothing of the Umpire interferes with the Catcher, or he is struck by a ball thrown by the Catcher to intercept a Base-runner.

#### WHEN BASE-RUNNERS ARE OUT.

48. The Base-runner is out—

§ 1. If, after three strikes have been declared against him while Batsman, and the Catcher fail to catch the third strike ball, he plainly attempts to hinder the Catcher from fielding the ball.

§ 2. If, having made a Fair Hit while Batsman, such Fair Hit ball be momentarily held by a Fielder, before touching the ground or any object other than a Fielder; *provided*, it be not caught in a Fielder's hat or cap.

§ 3. If, when the Umpire has declared three strikes on him, while Batsman, the third strike ball be momentarily held by a Fielder before touching the ground; *provided*, it be not caught in a Fielder's hat or cap, or touch some object other than a Fielder, before being caught.

§ 4. If, after Three Strikes, or a Fair Hit, he be touched with the ball in the hand of a Fielder *before* such Base-runner touches First Base.

§ 5. If, after Three Strikes or a Fair Hit, the ball be securely held by a Fielder, while touching First Base with any part of his person, *before* such Base-runner touches First Base.

§ 6. If, in running the last half of the distance from Home Base to First Base, while the ball is being fielded to First Base, he runs outside the three-feet lines, as defined in Rule 10, unless to avoid a Fielder attempting to field a batted ball.

§ 7. If, in running from First to Second Base from Second to Third Base, or from Third to Home Base, he runs more than three feet from a direct line between such bases to avoid being touched by the ball in

the hands of a Fielder ; but in case a Fielder be occupying the Base-runner's proper path, attempting to field a batted ball, then the Base-runner shall run out of the path, and behind said Fielder, and shall not be declared out for so doing.

§ 8. If he fails to avoid a Fielder attempting to field a batted ball, in the manner described in Sections 6 and 7 of this Rule ; or if he in any way obstructs a Fielder attempting to field a batted ball, or intentionally interferes with a thrown ball ; *provided*, That if two or more Fielders attempt to field a batted ball, and the Base-runner comes in contact with one or more of them, the Umpire shall determine which Fielder is entitled to the benefit of this Rule, and shall not decide the Base-runner out for coming in contact with any other Fielder.

§ 9. If, at any time while the ball is in play, he be touched by the ball in the hands of a Fielder, unless some part of his person is touching a base he is entitled to occupy ; *provided*, The ball be held by the Fielder after touching him ; but (exception as to First Base), in running to First Base, he may overrun said base without being put out for being off said base, after first touching it, provided he returns at once and retouches the base, after which he may be put out as at any other base. If, in overrunning First Base, he also attempts to run to Second Base, or, after passing the base he turns to his left from the Foul Line, he shall forfeit such exemption from being put out.

§ 10. If, when a Fair or Foul Hit ball (other than a foul tip as referred to in Rule 38) is legally caught by a Fielder, such ball is legally held by a Fielder on the Base occupied by the Base-runner when such ball was struck (or the Base-runner be touched with the ball in the hands of a Fielder), before he retouches such base after such Fair or Foul Hit ball was so caught ; *provided*, That the Base-runner shall not be out in such case, if, after the ball was legally caught as above, it be delivered to the bat by the Pitcher before the Fielder holds it on said base, or touches the Base-runner with it ; but if the Base-runner, in attempting to reach a base, detaches it before being touched or forced out, he shall be declared safe.

§ 11. If, when a Batsman becomes a Base-runner, the First Base, or the First and Second Bases, or the First, Second and Third Bases, be occupied, any Base-runner so occupying a base shall cease to be entitled to hold it, until any following Base-runner is put out, and may be put out at the next base, or by being touched by the ball in the hands of a Fielder in the same manner as in running to First Base, at any time before any following Base-runner is put out.

§ 12. If a Fair Hit ball strike him *before touching the fielder*, and in such case no base shall be run unless forced by the Batsman becoming a Base-runner, and no run shall be scored, or any other Base-runner put out.

§ 13. If, when running to a base or forced to return to a base, he fail to touch the intervening base or bases if any, in the order prescribed in Rule 45, he may be put out at the base he fails to touch, or by being

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touched by the ball in the hands of a Fielder, in the same manner as in running to First Base.

§ 14. If, when the Umpire calls "Play," after any suspension of a game, he fails to return to and touch the base he occupied when "Time" was called before touching the next base.

#### WHEN BATSMAN OR BASE-RUNNER IS OUT.

49. The Umpire shall declare the Batsman or Base-runner out, without waiting for an appeal for such decision, in all cases where such player is put out in accordance with these rules, except as provided in Rule 48, Sections 10 and 14.

#### COACHING RULES.

50. The Captains and Coachers are restricted in coaching to the Base-runner only, and are not allowed to address any remarks except to the Base-runner, and then only in words of necessary direction; and no player shall use language which will in any manner refer to or reflect upon a player of the opposing club, or the audience. To enforce the above, the Captain of the opposite side may call the attention of the Umpire to the offence, and upon a repetition of the same the club shall be debarred from further coaching during the game.

#### THE UMPIRE.

51. The Umpire shall not be changed during the progress of a game, except for reason of illness or injury.

#### HIS POWERS AND JURISDICTION.

52. § 1. The Umpire is master of the Field from the commencement to the termination of the game, and is entitled to the respect of the spectators, and any person offering any insult or indignity to him must be promptly ejected from the grounds.

§ 2. He must be invariably addressed by the players as Mr. Umpire; and he must compel the players to observe the provisions of all the Playing Rules, and he is hereby invested with authority to order any player to do or omit to do any act as he may deem necessary, to give force and effect to any and all of such provisions

#### SPECIAL DUTIES.

53. The Umpire's duties shall be as follows:—

§ 1. The Umpire is the sole and absolute judge of play. In no instance shall any person be allowed to question the correctness of any decision made by him except the Captains of the contending nines, and no other player shall at such time leave his position in the field, his place at the bat, on the bases or players' bench, to approach or address the Umpire in word or act upon such disputed decision. Neither shall

any Manager or other officers of either club—except the Captains as before mentioned—be permitted to go upon the field or address the Umpire in regard to such disputed decision, under a penalty of a forfeiture of the game to the opposing club. The Umpire shall in no case appeal to any spectator for information in regard to any case, and shall not reverse his decision on any point of play on the testimony of any player or bystander.

§ 2. Before the commencement of a game, the Umpire shall see that the rules governing all the materials of the game are strictly observed. He shall ask the Captain of the Home Club whether there are any special ground rules to be enforced, and if there are, he shall see that they are duly enforced, provided they do not conflict with any of these rules. He shall also ascertain whether the fence in the rear of the Catcher's position is distant ninety feet from the Home Base.

§ 3. The Umpire must keep the contesting nines playing constantly from the commencement of the game to its termination, allowing such delays only as are rendered unavoidable by accident, injury, or rain. He must, until the completion of the game, require the players of each side to promptly take their positions in the field as soon as the third man is put out, and must require the first striker of the opposite side to be in his position at the bat as soon as the Fielders are in their places.

§ 4. The Umpire shall count and call every "unfair ball" delivered by the Pitcher and every "dead ball," if also an unfair ball, as a "ball," and he shall also count and call every "strike." Neither a "ball" nor a "strike" shall be counted or called until the ball has passed the Home Base. He shall also declare every "Dead Ball" "Block," "Foul Hit," "Foul Strike," and "Balk."

54. For the special benefit of the patrons of the game, and because the offences specified are under his immediate jurisdiction, and not subject to appeal by players, the attention of the Umpire is particularly directed to possible violations of the purpose and spirit of the Rules, of the following character:—

§ 1. Laziness or loafing of players in taking their places in the field, or those allotted them by the Rules when their side is at the bat, and especially any failure to keep the bats in the racks provided for them; to be ready to take position as Batsmen, and to remain upon the Players' Bench, except when otherwise required by the Rules.

§ 2. Any attempt by players of the side at bat, by calling to a Fielder, other than the one designated by his Captain, to field a ball, or by any other equally disreputable means seeking to disconcert a Fielder.

§ 3. The Rules make a marked distinction between hindrance of an adversary in fielding a batted or thrown ball. This has been done to rid the game of the childish excuses and claims formerly made by a Fielder failing to hold a ball to put out a Base-runner. But there may be cases of a Base-runner so flagrantly violating the spirit of the Rules and of the game in obstructing a Fielder from fielding a thrown ball



that it would become the duty of the Umpire, not only to declare the Base-runner "out" (and to compel any succeeding Base-runners to hold their bases), but also, to impose a heavy fine upon him. For example: If the Base-runner plainly strike at the ball while passing him, to prevent its being caught by a Fielder; if he holds a Fielder's arms so as to disable him from catching the ball, or if he run against or knock the Fielder down for the same purpose.

#### CALLING "PLAY" AND "TIME."

55. The Umpire must call "Play," promptly at the hour designated by the Home Club, and on the call of "Play" the game must immediately begin. When he calls "Time," play shall be suspended until he calls "Play" again, and during the interim no player shall be put out, base be run, or run be scored. The Umpire shall suspend play only for an accident to himself or a player (but in case of accident to a Fielder, "Time" shall not be called until the ball be returned to and held by the Pitcher, standing in his position), or in case rain falls so heavily that the spectators are compelled, by the severity of the storm, to seek shelter, in which case he shall note the time of suspension, and should such rain continue to fall thirty minutes thereafter, he shall terminate the game; or to enforce order in case of annoyance from spectators.

56. The Umpire is only allowed, by the Rules, to call "Time" in case of an accident to himself or a player, a "Block," as referred to in Rule 35, Sec. 3, or in case of rain, as defined by the Rules. The practice of players suspending the game to discuss or contest a decision with the Umpire, is a gross violation of the Rules, and the Umpire must promptly fine any player who interrupts the game in this manner.

#### INFLECTING FINES.

57. The Umpire is empowered to inflict fines of not less than £1 nor more than £5 for the first offence on players during the progress of a game, as follows:—

§ 1. For indecent or improper language addressed to the audience, the Umpire, or any player.

§ 2. For the Captain or Coacher wilfully failing to remain within the legal bounds of his position, except upon an appeal by the Captain from the Umpire's decision upon a misinterpretation of the rules.

§ 3. For the disobedience by a player of any other of his orders or for any violation of these Rules.

§ 4. In case the Umpire imposes a fine on a player, he shall at once notify the Captain of the offending player's side, and shall transmit a written notice thereof to the President of the Association or League within twenty-four hours thereafter, under the penalty of having said fine taken from his own salary.

§ 5. A repetition of any of the above offences shall, at the discretion of the Umpire, subject the offender either to a repetition of the fine or

to removal from the field, and the immediate substitution of another player then in uniform.

#### FIELD RULES.

58. No Club shall allow open betting or pool-selling upon its grounds, nor in any building owned or occupied by it.

59. No person shall be allowed upon any part of the field during the progress of the game, in addition to the players in uniform, the Manager on each side and the Umpire ; except such officers of the law as may be present in uniform, and such officials of the Home Club as may be necessary to preserve the peace.

60. No Umpire, Manager, Captain or player shall address the audience during the progress of a game, except in case of necessary explanation.

61. Every Club shall furnish sufficient police force upon its own grounds to preserve order, and in the event of a crowd entering the field during the progress of a game, and interfering with the play in any manner, the Visiting Club may refuse to play further until the field be cleared. If the ground be not cleared within fifteen minutes thereafter, the Visiting Club may claim, and shall be entitled to, the game by a score of nine runs to none (no matter what number of innings have been played).

#### GENERAL DEFINITIONS.

62. "Play" is the order of the Umpire to begin the game, or to resume play after its suspension.

63. "Time" is the order of the Umpire to suspend play. Such suspension must not extend beyond the day of the game.

64. "Game" is the announcement by the Umpire that the game is terminated.

65. "An Inning" is the term at bat of the nine players representing a Club in a game, and is completed when three of such players have been put out as provided in these rules.

66. "A Time at Bat" is the term at bat of a Batsman. It begins when he takes his position, and continues until he is put out or becomes a Base-runner ; except when, because of being hit by a pitched ball, or in case of an illegal delivery by the Pitcher, as in Rule 44.

67. "Legal" or "Legally" signifies as required by these Rules.

#### SCORING.

68. In order to promote Uniformity in Scoring Championship Games, the following instructions, suggestions, and definitions are made for the benefit of scorers, and they are required to make all scores in accordance therewith.

#### BATTING.

§ 1. The first item in the tabulated score, after the player's name and position, shall be the number of times he has been at bat during

the game. The time or times when the player has been sent to base by being hit by a pitched ball, by the Pitcher's illegal delivery, or by a base on balls, shall not be included in this column.

§ 2. In the second column should be set down the runs made by each player.

§ 3. In the third column should be placed the first base hits made by each player. A base hit should be scored in the following cases :—

When the ball from the bat strikes the ground within the foul lines, and out of reach of the Fielders.

When a hit ball is partially or wholly stopped by a Fielder in motion, but such player cannot recover himself in time to handle the ball before the striker reaches First Base.

When a hit ball is hit so sharply to an infielder that he cannot handle it in time to put out the Batsman. In case of doubt over this class of hits, score a base hit, and exempt the Fielder from the charge of an error.

When a ball is hit so slowly toward a Fielder that he cannot handle it in time to put out the Batsman.

That in all cases where a Base-runner is retired by being hit by a batted ball, the Batsman should be credited with a base hit.

When a batted ball hits the person or clothing of the Umpire, as defined in Rule 37.

§ 4. In the fourth column shall be placed Sacrifice hits, which shall be credited to the Batsman, who, when but one man is out, advances a Runner a base on a fly to the out-field or a ground hit, which results in putting out the Batsman, or would so result if handled without error.

#### FIELDING.

§ 5. The number of opponents put out by each player shall be set down in the fifth column. Where a Striker is given out by the Umpire for a foul strike, or because he struck out of his turn, the put out shall be scored to the Catcher.

§ 6. The number of times the player assists shall be set down in the sixth column. An assist should be given to each player who handles the ball in assisting a run out or other play of the kind.

An assist should be given to a player who makes a play in time to put a Runner out, even if the player who could complete the play fails, through no fault of the player assisting.

And generally an assist should be given to each player who handles the ball from the time it leaves the bat until it reaches the player who makes the put out, or in case of a thrown ball, to each player who throws or handles it cleanly, and in such a way that a put-out results, or would result if no error were made by the Receiver.

#### ERRORS.

§ 7. An error shall be given in the seventh column for each misplay which allows the Striker or Base-runner to make one or more bases

when perfect play would have ensured his being put out, except that "wild pitches," "bases on balls," "bases on the Batsman being struck by a pitched ball," or case of illegal pitched balls, balks, and passed balls, shall not be included in said column. In scoring errors of batted balls, see Section 3 of this Rule.

#### STOLEN BASES.

§ 8. Stolen bases shall be scored as follows :—

Any attempt to steal a base must go to the credit of the Base-runner, whether the ball is thrown wild or muffed by the Fielder; but any manifest error is to be charged to the Fielder making the same. If the Base-runner advances another base he shall not be credited with a stolen base, and the Fielder allowing the advancement is also to be charged with an error. If a Base-runner makes a start and a battery error is made, the Runner secures the credit of a stolen base, and the battery error is scored against the player making it. Should a Base-runner overrun a base and then be put out, he should receive the credit for the stolen base.

#### EARNED RUNS.

§ 9. An earned run shall be scored every time the player reaches the home base unaided by errors before chances have been offered to retire the side.

#### THE SUMMARY.

69. The Summary shall contain :

- § 1. The number of earned runs made by each side.
- § 2. The number of two-base hits made by each player.
- § 3. The number of three-base hits made by each player.
- § 4. The number of home runs made by each player.
- § 5. The number of bases stolen by each player.
- § 6. The number of runs batted in by base hits by each batsman.
- § 7. The number of double and triple plays made by each side, with the names of the players assisting in the same.
- § 8. The number of men given bases on called balls by each Pitcher.
- § 9. The number of men given bases from being hit by pitched balls.
- § 10. The number of men struck out.
- § 11. The number of passed balls by each Catcher.
- § 12. The number of wild pitches by each Pitcher.
- § 13. The time of game.
- § 14. The name of the Umpire.



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